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1898

STARK FRUIT BOOK

CHAMPION



COPYRIGHT
1898
BY STARK BROS.

BLACK BEN DAVIS
TRADE MARK

APPLE OF COMMERCE
TRADE MARK

THREE
MARKET
KINGS

PAINTED FROM NATURE for STARK BROS.

Rochester Litho. Co.
ROCHESTER, N.Y.

A Stark 2-yr. APPLE Block

Photo taken 15 minutes after the two rows which stood in the center had been dug with a Stark Improved Tree Digger, and trees, big and little, cleared up, loaded into boxed-up covered tree wagons and sent to sorting and grading houses.

Many millions of Stark Trees have been thus cleared up at 1- and 2-yr. and no old blocks left for disease-and-pest-breeding places.

STARK
TREES

STARK
NURSERY



Stark 2-yr.
BUDDED Apple—
4-yr. Roots

For Busy, Brainy People, men of affairs, who look to quality as well as to quantity, who are impatient of mere words, WORDS, WORDS,—this little Book is intended. If we have anything worth saying we try to get at it by the shortest cut. If we have nothing to say no one wishes to hear us talk. So, we cut out every superfluous word, and wherever a four-letter word can be made to do the work of a ten-letter word, it has to do it. For the same good reason, no apology, we think, is due for the use of so many photos—

“**Living Pictures**”—which tell, and tell finely, a story without words, a story you can “read” at a glance, a story so pointed as to appeal to intelligent people everywhere. Even the truest pictures, whether painted or photographed from nature, give but a faint conception of the beauties of real Trees and Fruits. Hence, in Nursery illustration there is a strong reaction against the unreal, fantastic pictures and in favor of true photographs,—pictures true to Nature because made by Nature’s Sun himself. This reaction, however, shows the intense realism of actual business life.

“**Life is real**, life is earnest ;” and one of the most earnest things in life is getting on in business. We hope this brief Book may aid you. We have tried to state simple facts, rather than try to make our descriptions as rich in promises as the rising sun is of light.

“In these days,” writes a long-time customer, “when sensationalism and strained descriptions of new fruits, written solely for effect, seem to be the chief end of—some men, it is a relief, a pleasure, and an encouragement to turn to your plain, matter-of-fact descriptions of new varieties. Your introduction and fair commendation of the Red June plum might well have been doubly strong and still be far short of indicating its real worth. And what a spread you might have made on the \$9,000 Burbank fruits, instead of quoting the conservative words of Burbank himself. Plums costing one-sixth the price of Gold are heralded far and loud as ‘Burbank’s greatest, grandest in existence, most beautiful, most luscious, best bearer, best keeper, glorious, beautiful as wax, no other fruit can approach in quality, etc.; delicious sweetness, high plum flavor surpassing anything we ever saw, delicious pulp flows out LIKE HONEY; rank grower, of dwarfish habit, trees 3-ft. high produce LARGE CROPS, much superior to any other kind, etc.’—How consistent! At 3-ft., large crops, and still a RANK grower! Can flavor be SEEN? Pulp like honey must make a fine (?) shipper.”

Direct, First-hand Studies and descriptions are included in the STARK FRUIT Book, in which facts, whether good or bad, for or against, are stated as we have found them.

One Ugly Little Fact, as Huxley says, will destroy the most beautiful theory ever constructed. One bad point, one ugly fault, may destroy the value of an otherwise very worthy fruit. Some writers seem to teach that each variety they catalogue is “one of the best.” We have not found it so. And to our own experience and observation we add much **alive, up-to-date and exact** information from Exp. Stations, Hort. Societies, and practical Fruit Growers throughout the U. S.—all condensed for busy people.

Time is the stuff life is made of and life is too short to be wasted in experiments with doubtful kinds



Field (at Stark, Mo.) of
1-yr. BUDDED Apple,
Senator, &c. The 4
bundles are Prize-
taker, 1-yr. Budded
---3-YR. ROOTS.
Stark Tree Digger
in distance.

or to prove facts already established. The best scientists can only work out for themselves a fact here and there. Wise men accept and profit by the experience and facts established by others.

You'll Find points direct from the «head centers» of fruit distribution, from **men who know** what kinds the people buy and eat, in the pithy letters from wholesale fruit and cold storage firms.

To Give More than is promised, has always been the guiding policy of the Stark Nursery. It is conducted with a definite constructive purpose. Its aim is to build up American orchards, and promote a wise and wide planting of good fruits. It has stood the test of time—not «here to-day and gone to-morrow.» If there's a mistake made you can FIND us—ready, ANXIOUS, GLAD, to make it right. We have the best of reasons to believe we make very few,—but not one of us nor of our employees is infallible.

Condensation is the spirit of the age. The 4-page Condensed Price List enclosed quotes a greater number of articles and an infinitely larger assortment of varieties than ordinarily would fill many pages.

Apple Growers cannot afford to pass by the five new apples,—painted from nature—yet their real beauty baffles art. Senator, Delicious, Black Ben Davis, Champion, Apple of Commerce, named in their order of ripening, are not new in the usual sense, but have won **their spurs** in market orchards. In our judgment, they are going to play an important part in apple history in the very near future. Truly,

W. M. Stark
Pres't

What Not to Plant, What to plant, etc. • • •

KEY.—F, Family use; K, Kitchen; M, Market. FM, therefore, indicates a good ALL PURPOSE variety.

Hardiness, Adaptability, etc., in the region for which a sort is recommended, indicated thus: N, North—where Ben Davis apple trees stand but Wild Goose plum trees often winter-kill. C, Central—where Wild Goose is hardy but peach trees are sometimes badly winter-killed, bearing about twice in five years. S, South—where peach TREES are uninjured by cold, failures of the crop usually being due to untimely frosts, or to freezes following warm spells. NN, North, also FAR North—where Ben Davis trees winter-kill. These divisions are not a matter of latitude merely, but depend upon altitude and other conditions. For instance, in our Denver orchards at an altitude of 5300 ft., not only peach trees but Wild Goose plums generally winter-kill, and even moderately hardy apple trees, M. Blush, etc., are often injured, particularly while young and making a vigorous growth. In the same latitude and altitude in WESTERN Colo., the apricot, peach, etc., flourish. The divisions as given, however, have a more or less similar climate, etc.

Season of Ripening varies with each degree of latitude, and is more or less governed by local and other conditions; hence, taking the country as a whole, it is of little use to say a given sort «ripens July 1,» etc. We COMPARE, therefore, the season of each sort with that of other varieties, many of which are well known, by naming (on yellow ORDER BLANK) principal 1st Choice sorts in their **order of ripening**.

1st CHOICE LISTS (in **THIS TYPE**) have been carefully reduced, retaining only the very best—sorts we ourselves plant for family use or profit, sorts ripening in succession and covering the entire season of the different fruits,—sorts of sterling merit for the several sections, with nothing of highest worth omitted. And even some retained would go into 2d Choice Lists but that they are fine in some sections. No one wants second-best when the best costs no more, hence we admit into 1st CHOICE LISTS no sort that is not good enough to propagate in large lots and safely command to planters.

What NOT to Plant, as well as what to plant, is an important question, hence we put into—

2d Choice Lists (in **This Type**) rejected sorts, tried and found wanting, kinds of only secondary merit, also varieties now superseded by BETTER sorts of same season, as well as a few fairly promising tho' little tested kinds. Some 2d Choice sorts we grow because there are planters who know and want them and won't be convinced, for a time at least, that there are better varieties. Whenever a kind proves itself superior to another, then the inferior variety must soon go to 2d Choice List, or, if too seriously lacking, be wholly discarded. Sorts tried and discarded are many more than there's space even to name.



STARK
BROS

APPLE of COMMERCÉ---

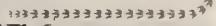
growing in poorest white.
pebbly soil; no cultivation.

LATE bloomer,

14 full crops in 15 yrs.

Limbs bend but

NEVER break.



APPLES

AKIN.—Awarded three 1st premiums by Ill. Hort. Society in 1890. Likely a seedling of Milam, but better and larger, though rather small for market; not a young bearer, but long-lived. Dec. to March. FAMILY. NC.

A fine appearing fruit, and tree a fair grower and bearer.—FRED. GRUNDY, Ill., in Agricultural Epitomist.

Medium size, red, tender flesh, delicate flavor, keeps fairly well.—Prof. H. E. VAN DEMAN, in Rural New-Yorker.

Ill. Hort. Soc.: A red apple of the highest quality; crisp, tender, spicy; medium size; late bearer.

Sample apples of Babbitt, Kinnaird and Akin expressed you; also specimens of N. Spy. Baldwin and Ben Davis, for comparison. Kinnaird is delicious, but under-sized and very prone to scab. **Akin shows up well**, not yet borne a full crop; good quality, lacks size for market; color fine. Babbitt is an interesting variety; seems to get its full development here, but not borne heavily as yet; sturdy grower, but tardy bearer. Should be of much value as a cooking apple, and would be liked by many for eating, but rather too sprightly for most tastes until ripe; if it will bear heavily as the tree gains age, would expect it to be more profitable here than Ben Davis, which does not attain full size in this climate, though a late keeper. Have fine specimens of Gano. Palouse is a handsome late fall apple. Have **6,000 barrels** of apples in my storehouse, the best lot in these parts. Hope to get 40 acres near by and plant with apples. Am greatly interested in the new varieties.—W.M. H. HART, Dutchess Co., N. Y.

Alexander.—Thin bearer, blighter; less hardy, much less desirable, than Wealthy or Wolf River. M. N.

Ill. Exp. Stn.: Often imperfect, liable to rot. Though showy when in perfection, is of little value.—Prof. BURRILL.

Am. Sum'r Pearmain.—Tender, juicy, but develops many faults; Sum'r King is best of the season. F. C. S.

Mich. Exp. Stn.: Liable to scab and crack; of scarcely medium vigor; requires good rich culture.—Pres't T. T. LYON.

APPLE OF COMMERCE (Trade-Mark).—To the watchful nurseryman, as to the enterprising orchardist, there is nothing more dangerously fascinating than new fruits. Hundreds are brought to our notice every year.

A due conservatism, coupled with a somewhat full knowledge of the varieties already known to fame, almost invariably results in their rejection. When, therefore, we do introduce a new sort, our customers may be assured that, in at least some one respect, we think it the best in the world. And, further, that

no new introduction of ours will be launched (as we have sometimes known to be the case) by the aid of point-blank guessing and the bewitching generalization conjured out of a couple or so of assumed facts.

This, THE «apple of commerce,» is in our judgment a great market sort, one we ourselves would plant where Ben Davis succeeds and even farther north, ahead of and before all others. Next Delicious, as much for its incomparable quality as for its size, beauty and market value,—farther north than Ben Davis but not so far south—except for family use. Then, Black Ben Davis equally with Apple of Commerce, WHEREVER Ben Davis is grown. Then comes Champion—ahead of Senator, for the latter, while second in quality only to Delicious, is not a LONG keeper, tho' decidedly later than Baldwin, Jonathan or Rome Beauty.

«No other apple in the world could have stirred me as did the first sight of those wonderful trees,—29 of them, 7-ysr.-old, in an 80-acre orchard, surrounded with Ben Davis, Winesap, Ark. Black, Baldwin,» says the notes of our Mr. C. M. Stark, Oct. 22, 1895. «Their **latest bloomer**. Spreading, strong grower. Limbs stiff and stout. Very hard wood, much like Duchess but remarkably tough. Not one broken limb, tho' many bent almost double. Ben Davis all around, badly split and broken. The few Ben Davis apples still hanging, soft; windfalls, bruised. The Commerce—of **astonishing beauty**, two shades of red, with thick, heavy, blue bloom—sound, solid, **hard**, perfect every way, and cling so tight can't shake them off—stems pull out first. After we had talked with the orchardists growing it and, above all, after we had seen the trees in orchard, small wonder that, as soon as we reached the R. R., we telegraphed home: «Eureka. Exit Ben Davis, Mo. Pippin, et al.» For we knew we had found what we had come to seek—a **better market apple than Ben Davis**. In fact, Apple of Commerce, as its name implies, can rightfully be called a world-apple, and seems destined in the future, in yet greater measure than has ever been true of any other apple, to rule in the orchards and markets of the earth. F. M. NCS.

Have 29 trees, 7-ysr.-old, planted with large lot of Ben Davis and Winesap. **Bore at 4 years** and every year since. Better bearer than Ben Davis—**bears too much**. Averages larger, finer color, much longer keeper—best I have; keeps into June. In March is still hard, then gets mellow, **juicy and fine**. **Worth more** than Ben Davis, Winesap, M. B. Twig, etc. Hangs later than Ben Davis, is later and better every way—**best apple in Ark.** If planting **1000 trees**, **every one of them** should be Apple of Commerce. Not QUITE as good an eating apple as Winesap at its best, but a sight better than Ben Davis and all such. When this fine variety comes into market we **can't sell our Ben Davis**. My neighbor, S. Cowan, who propagated my trees, has since grafted and planted all he can get. Is just **wild over it**.—A. DARNELL, 1895, [has 80-acre orchard; sold us the 29 trees.]

Bore 13 crops in 13 years **without failure**; keep until June. Have seen **not one broken limb**. Hard, tough wood, sure bearer, long keeper—in short, **combines all** good points for a **perfect market apple**.—J. SCHLAELFI, Dec., '95. **Extra late bloomer**, blooms after all other apples. Has borne several crops when Limbertwig, our next surest bearer, and all other kinds were a failure. Bought this place 15 years ago and the 8 trees have made only one part failure in that time, giving **14 full crops in 15 years**. Limbs bend double but don't break. Apples don't drop, and hang long after Ben Davis. Gather them after Limbertwig. In fact, leave them until Oct. 20 to 25—stick so tight won't **SHAKE** before. Then shake them down on the ground. They are **so hard they don't bruise**. Put them in ordinary cellar and they keep later than Limbertwig. Often keep till July, and always until apples come again. The **finest apple I ever saw**. My 8 trees, [smallest one shown in photo—after 8 bushels apples had been hand picked] likely are all sprouts from original tree, as have set young sprouts from them which bore true. Nobody ever grafted or got any scions but S. Cowan, before I sold all to Stark Bro's. The man who planted the 8 trees is dead, no one knows whence they came or where original tree stood.—S. W. RICHARDSON, Ark.

No. Hort. Soc.: The coming apples, those that are to take the place of our now standard kinds, we must seek in the Ozarks, for there is where they are to come from.—E. L. POLLARD, Olden Fruit Co. [Mr. P. went, saw, found Champion and—came away content.]

The **ideal winter apple**, is of **good** quality, medium size, **red** color, a **late** keeper, tree **productive**.—Ill. Hort. Soc. We should **so live** and labor in our time that what came to us as seed may go to the next generation as blossom, and what came to us as blossom may go to them as fruit. This is what we mean by **progress**.—BEECHER.

Coming Market Apples will be from the Ozarks. Trees DON'T BLIGHT, Vigorous, Hardy, Bear Young. Fine Size, Color, Quality—and KEEP TILL APPLES COME AGAIN.—Years ago the discussions, both of Ill. Hort. Soc. and Mo. Hort. Soc. showed that our improved market winter apples of the future must come, not from Russia or the north, but from the south. Time has proven the wisdom of this forecast, for the great market apples we have to-day in the west are, many of them, from the Ozarks—the «Home of the Big Red Apple.» For **70 years**, the people there have been planting seed of their best apples; while, in less remote regions, nearly all trees were grafted or budded. Hence the Ozarks have produced so many new apples—the bulk of which, of course, are either not as good, or then no better, than well known sorts. A few are superlative. But, in our search for apples superior to any now in cultivation, we paid no attention to any sort that lacked any one of our five absolutely essential requisites: **Size, Color, Quality, Vigor, Productiveness**. We then traced origin and history. Briefly, among the Ozark apples herein offered, are several which we believe **surpass anything now in cultivation**. As compared with each other, and with the astonishingly fine new Iowa apple, Delicious, we value them in the following order: Apple of Commerce, Delicious, Black Ben Davis, Senator, Champion—and even the latter **pays better** than Ben Davis, Mo. Pippin, Willow Twig. **Blight is more and more** an enemy to be dreaded. Last year not only all Russians blighted badly, but in Colo. and elsewhere, old sorts such as Astrachan, Wealthy, and even Duchess blighted. Yet in the same orchards, Ozark sorts were entirely exempt. Again, every Ozark apple that is a signal success in its native home has also proven successful wherever tested throughout the apple belt. So true is this that the most experienced orchardists have not hesitated to plant an Ozark new variety on a vast scale, if it has proven to be of surpassing value in its home. For example, the Olden Fruit Co. sought an apple which would hang on the trees later than Ben Davis, while equaling it in other respects. They found what they wanted in Champion, an apple that has made a remarkable record in scores of Ozark orchards, far surpassing Ben Davis. And yet, at least—

Two other Ozark keepers, Apple of Commerce, Black Ben Davis, far excel Champion in size, color and quality, while fully equal in vigor, in young and prolific bearing. **Apple of Commerce** stands unrivaled as the **longest keeper of them all**, and has besides in a high degree, all good points of the perfect apple. Size of Ben Davis, far more beautiful color, excellent quality—beyond comparison with Ben Davis. Tree even more vigorous, and **so tough** the branches bend almost double with fruit, but never break—as does Ben Davis. Bears at 4 years and bears too much—it's only fault. As its name indicates, there will surely come a time when it will be THE great apple of commerce.

Black Ben Davis is the apple we shall plant every time instead of Ben Davis—because just like its

STARK
BROS



APPLE of COMMERCE---

3½ yrs. planted.

In orchard of W. F. Cowan—whose father first grafted this King Keeper and Bearer. Father and son are planting 1600 more trees—all Apple of Commerce.

parent Ben Davis in tree, but a surer bearer. Size the same. Vastly richer, more beautiful solid red color. Much better quality. Hangs longer and a better keeper. Ben Davis is, and has been, a great apple. No one has been more constant than we in urging its value. But all have been hoping for an improvement—and such is Black Ben Davis. So much finer is it that, in our own planting, Ben Davis's day is done.

Ingram is equal to Champion in long keeping and quality, almost equal in productiveness and color, but fruit is smaller and tree less vigorous than any other of our Ozark sorts. **Read the good things** said of Ingram. And there is not one of the new Ozark sorts named, but will prove equally profitable; and two, at least, FAR more so,—Apple of Commerce, Black Ben Davis; with Champion not far behind this «Big 2.»

Senator is a wonderfully valuable apple, of peculiar beauty and surprising quality, but is a winter, not a SPRING, apple; yet it keeps later than Rome Beauty, etc.

Apple growers who FIRST get orchards of these great Ozark apples will make fortunes. As an example of their astonishing value note the commendations given to Ingram—the one of least value. Although brought out some 15 years ago, it is yet but little grown. This shows how long it has taken good apples to become widely known. But even Ingram originated **35 years after** Senator, a generation after Champion, and many years later than Apple of Commerce or Black Ben Davis. **Not one** of these sorts is an untested novelty. Nor is there one that lacks for reputation in its native home; indeed, such «prophets could not be without honor in their own country.»

ARK. BEAUTY.—Large, light crimson with splashes of dark crimson. Fine grained, good, mild. Does well in Colo. A.W. Poole, Ark., says: «A beautiful and good apple.» Dec.-Mar. F. N.C.S.

No painting can excel its beauty; an apple **finer than the pictures** in nurserymen's plate books.—ELI MINCH, N. J.

Ark. Black.—A second edition of Lawver (Del. Red Winter); scabs badly, and is a tardy as well as a thin bearer. Does well in western Colo.; likely safe to plant where Lawyer succeeds. Late keeper. M. C.S.



CROWN-grafted, BRACE-rooted
9-yr. Ben Davis,
on very rich soil, orchard of Porter Bro's
— Read what they say.

STARK
NURSERY

Porter Bro's, Washington Co., Ark., have fine orchards, which we have twice visited. The photo was taken at noon when light was too glaring, hence does not outline the **strong brace roots**—which showed above the surface to points indicated by fingers. They write Dec. 25, 1897:

In Setting an Orchard, the first thing is to buy 1st-class budded trees, budded above the ground. Set them as deep as they grew in nursery, no deeper. This will let brace roots come out near top of ground—where soil is good. Our best trees all show brace roots like the one in photo—then no borers, no dying. It bore 5 barrels of 1st-class apples this year,—as did others of our 9-yr. trees. Our best trees have the best roots and the best apples. One cause of so many trees dying, is sorry trees to start with, and then set too deep in the ground. It is impossible to grow a good tree with the seedling part away down in poor clay. Always plant 1st-class trees regardless of cost and set shallow. A 20-acre orchard netted us \$1600 this year.—PORTER BRO'S, Ark.

The True Principle is budding. Would give \$1000 if block of root-grafted Shockley in my orchard were budded. They have no brace roots near surface, hence the wind blows them, forming a funnel during winter; won't bear, and borers will kill them all before they are 12 years old. You can't make it too strong that budded apple trees are the trees to plant, at least in this state. I plant apples 20x21 ft., JOGGED. Prune when in full leaf—May and June—mid-June best. Always sow hogs in my orchard, instead of other crops. Hogs keep up fertility, get the fallen and wormy fruit,—in fact would stop orcharding if had to stop "sowing" hogs. Later.—Have 7000 Poole Fav. peach trees in bearing, and want 4000 more to plant the coming spring, also 4000 of your best XX budded apple trees. It makes no difference what others say, I know by experience the budded tree is best.—A. W. POOLE, Franklin Co., the largest orchardist in Ark.

"Budded Trees, it is claimed," says Warder's great book, AM. POMOLOGY, "are more hardy and better able to resist the severity of winter, than the same varieties which have been grafted in the root or collar, and also that budded trees come sooner into bearing. That the serious difficulty of bark-bursting occurs near the ground does seem to be an argument of weight in favor of budding. The earlier fruiting of budded trees does not seem to be well established—except that the stocks, upon which the buds were inserted, are older by some years than the slip of root used in grafting, so that the fruiting of the budded tree should count two or more years further back than from the period of budding."

To Make Trees Bear, Porter Bro's have long practised an easier, quicker and better plan than pruning roots: In June, when sap is in highest flow, take out cigar-shaped strips of bark 1 to 2 inches wide, pointed at both ends, shaped somewhat thus, <—————>; strips may be 1, 2 or even 3 ft. long and extend from ground almost to branches; always leave intact around entire trunk of tree, alternate strips of bark about half the width of the strips taken out. New bark will form astonishingly quick, without injury to tree, yet a check will be given which will cause formation of bloom buds.

BABBITT.—An excellent tart apple, but we find tree a slow bearer, inclined to blight. Dec.-Mar. K M. N C. Mo. Hort. Soc.: Took 1st premium as best new apple for market. Does well in yellow soil.—N. F. MURRAY, Pres.

BALDWIN.—A celebrated winter apple east, but west and south a good and valuable fall sort. K M. C. Mo. Hort. Soc.: A fine fall apple here; tree very productive and fruit free from scab.

Vermont Apple Growing.—Methods adopted have had the proof of experience: Sandy or gravelly soils preferred. Budded trees, 2- or 3-yr., are preferred for planting. All commercial orchards are systematically cultivated. Spraying is an accepted practice. Apples usually marketed early; some held in storage. Paying prices are realized. N. Spy, Baldwin, Ben Davis, Bellflower, are favorite varieties. For planting new orchards most growers prefer budded trees; in buying there is a common prejudice in favor of locally grown trees, though, in practice, most of the stock is bought from western nurseries on account of price. First-class 2-yr. budded trees, standard sorts, cost \$12.50 to \$18 a hundred. Some people pay more; but that is their privilege! Too many varieties are grown; the fewer, within narrow limits, in an orchard or a neighborhood, the better have they sold. Does it pay? Emphatically, yes. Grand Isle Co., in 1896, shipped 40,424 bbls. One grower from 20 acres, sold 1000 bbls. No. 1 apples @ \$1.50. In one year, N. G. Hill, from one tree picked 14 bbls. of apples which sold for \$52. One grower sold 222 barrels for \$875 net. One young orchard of 300 trees yielded in 1895, 700 barrels, which sold for \$1330 net. The same orchard in 1896 yielded over 1000 bbls. These results are not extremes; but they were secured by men who took care of their orchards. May the business be safely extended? Yes. If twenty times as many apples were grown the whole amount could be sold to better advantage than is the present output. Buyers seldom come to the orchards now; but the more apples grown in any neighborhood, the more buyers; crops handled to better advantage, sales easier at better prices. There is no danger of overdoing the business; for while more orchards are planted every year, good apples may always be sold at a profit.—Vt. Exp. St'n.



**STARK
NURSERY**

One-Yr. BUDED Apple

Ben Davis, etc., at STARK, MO.

BARRY.—Vigorous, but we find does not ripen its wood well and is much inclined to blight. Winter. F. C. Fine new apple, raised in our nurseries; has been thoroughly tested, so we recommend it as a novelty of sterling merit. Yellow ground marbled with carmine on sunny side; firm, crisp, acid; quality good. A great keeper, lasting in perfection till June. Vigorous grower.—ELLWANGER & BARRY, N. Y.

Beauty of Bath.—An early dessert apple, not well tested here. Awarded a 1st certificate by Royal Hort. Soc. of England. Extremely handsome. Yellowish green, beautifully striped crimson. Brisk flavor. F. C.

BELLFLOWER, YELLOW.—Everywhere of good quality; but tardy and as a rule does not bear enough to be profitable for market. Quality varies with the soil, being best and most highly flavored and colored on rather thin or sandy soils; inferior on rich low bottoms or prairies. FAMILY. NCS.

Ill. Hort. Soc.: I would rather grow Ben Davis for 50¢ a bushel than Bellflower for \$5 a bushel. We must plant what we can grow, and what we can sell after it is grown.—Pres't E. A. RIEHL.

BELLFLOWER IMPROVED (Mason Orange).—Seedling of Yellow Bellflower, and every way like it—except of even better quality and, more important still, a young and regular bearer. FM. NCS.

When first exhibited some years ago it excited the admiration of expert fruit growers because it so closely resembled Yel. Bellflower. It was thought identical with that excellent kind, but closer examination revealed a difference in taste, etc. The originator sold the right to propagate it and wrote: «Has a close resemblance to Yel. Bellflower except in productiveness, in which particular it excels all others in my orchard—composed of leading sorts; has never failed a full crop since the tree was 5 or 6 years old,—and that is more than my other kinds have done; retains its rich juiciness through the entire season—my best winter apple.» **Later:** Shows its Yel. Bellflower parentage, but is PRODUCTIVE. Trees 3d year in orchard bearing full.—A. H. GRIESA. Exp. Orchard, Kan.

BENONI (Red June, of some).—The best apple of its season, far finer than Red June; of most excellent quality, valuable alike for home use and market. Medium, covered with bright red stripes and splashes; tender, juicy, rich, aromatic. Tree upright and compact, hardy, productive after attaining age. Because of its beauty, fine quality and firmness—almost like a late sort—we especially recommend Benoni as an excellent apple to ship long distances. Summer. FAMILY. MARKET. NORTH. CENTRAL. SOUTH.

«Almost equal to Benoni,» says Downing's great work, describing Stayman Summer, thus according it high praise. **Mo. Hort. Soc.:** Red June was next to come in; a full crop of deformed, scabby apples, which the hogs would not eat—absolutely worthless here. Sweet June but little better. **Benoni** and Duchess, bore fine and perfect fruit; hardy, fine growers, and among the very best early apples.

III. Exp. St'n: Well known, valuable, especially so for home use. One of the best in quality.—Prof. T. J. BURRILL. Iowa Exp. St'n, notes, 1897: Trees hardy, very large and very full, and apples very fine.

Am. Pom. Soc.—There has been a remarkable increase in commercial fruit growing. Duchess, **Benoni**, Jonathan, Grimes Golden, Ben Davis, are the most popular apples. Kieffer pear, while not absolutely blight proof, may be made practically so, by proper care. Always sells. Seckel, Tyson, Bartlett, Flemish B'ty, are popular. The new Lincoln pear is promising.—A. C. HAMMOND, Sec'y Ill. Hort. Society, before Am. Pom. Society.

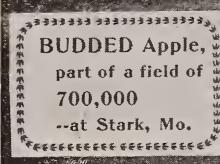
Bismarck.—A New Zealand apple, much overpraised.

Chief value is young bearing—but does not surpass Mo. Pippin. We saw it fruiting in France in 1896; valued there only for cooking. Fall. KM. NCS. Our inquiries concerning the much advertised Bismarck have not brought much information. S. D. Willard, N. Y., has top-worked trees; is impressed from reports that it is of no particular value.—J. H. B., N. J.: «Have Bismarck 3 years old; not yet borne.»—S. H., O.: «Have trees 12 to 15 inches high; each tree blossomed and a few trees are carrying an apple or two.—Benj. Buckman, Ill., received scions from England, where the sort is valued for cooking purposes only and described as very large, handsome, firm, a heavy cropper, small trees bearing freely; Oct. to Dec. **Bismarck Apple at Last:** Luther Burbank, Cal., writes, «Sent medium sized Bismarck. A good grower, bearing sometimes the year top-graft set; quality fair.»—Apple whitish-yellow, streaks of bright crimson; handsome. Not quite tender; juicy, rather too acid for eating raw, excellent for cooking.—Rural N.Y.

BEN DAVIS (Ky. Red, N. Y. Pippin).—Large, round oblong; striped and splashed bright red; very handsome; tender, mild, sub-acid, not rich. Bruises dry up, instead of decaying, as with most sorts. Tree vigorous, hardy; bears early and continuously. For all sorts of locations in the West this has been for many years the most profitable market apple grown. KITCHEN. MARKET. NCS.

For 20 years and more, men have been saying, «Ben Davis is too poor quality, won't sell at all when people find it out.» Yet during this time no apple has paid so well. In N. Y. City, car lots of Mo. and Ill. Ben Davis apples have sold at \$3 a bbl., while Baldwin, the long time favorite, was slow at \$2.50, for choice. Like mercy, the «quality of Ben Davis is not strained.» In fact, when properly grown, it is not nearly so poor in quality as many believe. It is all in the point of view; this year when we pay 60¢ a peck for Ben Davis they taste first rate; so they do to average people of the great cities,—who as a rule forget to store their cellars every fall with a dozen barrels or so of Grimes, Jonathan, etc. The great masses of apple consumers are not so critical as expert pomologists.

And yet ere long Ben Davis will go into our 2d Choice List! And then how the questions will be asked. It is so with some very good sorts now in 2d choice list. Men seem to forget there are improvements in fruits,—as in electricity and most other things. A few years ago in the central west, Wild Goose was the standard plum; but who wants Wild Goose when there's Red June, Gold, or even Poole? Ben Davis



STARK BROS LOUISIANA, Mo.
Stark, Mo.
Rockport, Ill.
Dansville, N. Y.

is and has been a money maker, a good friend, yet for years the search has been for an apple more perfect. We ourselves have sought it long and diligently. We have found it. Black Ben Davis is more nearly perfect—equal to Ben Davis in all, and better in some most important respects. Champion out-pays and outkeeps Ben Davis. Apple of Commerce altogether outclasses Ben Davis, especially in hardness, bearing, long keeping and quality. Hundreds of orchardists will plant these sorts; we believe thousands would plant them if they knew as much about them as we do.

Our mutual friend old Ben must, therefore, soon take second place, yet some will continue to plant and we shall continue to grow for years and years to come, many Ben Davis trees, even though it may be in 2d choice list. But we would say to Ben Davis planters, alternate with Jonathan, Apple of Commerce, Champion, or some other long lived sort; then when your Ben Davis trees, which do their work well and quickly, are worn out, the others will be in their prime and need all the ground.

Pres't J. C. Evans, while in charge of Mo. fruits at the World's Fair, said to us earnestly: «For market let people still plant Ben Davis, with some Grimes Golden»—such advice he has given for many years:

Mo. Hort. Soc., 1878:—Mr. EVANS: Think a great deal of Jonathan. Lost last fall by not having them to sell at \$1.50 a bu., when other apples sold for \$1. The only objection—not a good keeper. But were I to plant 1,000 or 2,000 trees for market only, I would plant Ben Davis ONLY. From an orchard of 5-yr. Ben Davis, I have sold the fruit for \$5.75 per tree. Trees of that age will average \$2.50 per tree. Ben Davis gave half a crop last year when other sorts were an utter failure. 10-yr. trees will average ten bu. of apples. I plant 100 trees to the acre.

MR. MONAGHAN: Mr. Evans' figures seem too large. He makes an average crop of apples worth \$1.50 per acre.

MR. EVANS: I have stated facts as I have found them in my own orchard.

Pres't J. C. Evans, 1893: If you want to sell apples, plant Ben Davis. Last year they sold in London ahead of Greening, Newtown Pippin, and others that have heretofore been the best sellers there. Their grand color and uniform size is what will sell them. The way the English sample apples is to take out the barrel head and roll out the entire contents on the floor. Ben Davis will stand this, and not be hurt by it either.

Mo. Hort. Soc., 1896: Ben Davis still seems the leader among commercial apples.

Iowa Hort. Soc.: For market, in this locality, an orchard wholly Ben Davis is more profitable than anything else in the apple line.—C. G. PATTEN, Floyd Co., N. E. Iowa.

In Iowa—S. H. Mallory, Lucas Co., South Central Ia., from 35 acres Ben Davis, first crop 1894, received net profit, \$1100; in 1895, net profit, \$2100; '96 net profit, \$600, and '97 net profit, \$4000.

N. C. Exp. St'n: Widely grown, very popular; not of very fine quality, and so does not command highest prices. Tree all that could be desired. Apples large, handsome and sell well at moderate prices.

The Apple King in Kansas is Judge F. Wellhouse. His orchards consist of 1630 acres, 100,000 trees. He still plants trees. «I take more delight in planting apple trees and seeing them grow,» says he, «than in anything else in the world.» Chief precedence is given to Ben Davis, 630 acres; Mo. Pippin, 360 acres; Jonathan, 300 acres; Gano, 100 acres. With an experience of 38 years his methods ought to be of interest: «In planting apple trees use land in as good state of cultivation as for other crops. Make the rows north and south, 32 ft. apart, by turning a straight furrow to the west and another to the east, say 20 inches from the first; the middle strip thus left is thrown out with the plow, the last furrow about ten inches deep. In the bottom of this dead furrow, run a listing plow, with subsoiling attachment, and then cross-mark with any device to indicate the location of the trees, 16 ft. apart in the rows. Thrifty 2-yr. trees are best.»—Western Fruit Grower.

Apples that went to London, 5 cars direct from Kan.—Ben Davis, Mo. Pippin and Willowtwig. The appearance of an apple largely determines its value, and the liberal price paid for this lot was obtainable only because it was choice in color, size and freedom from imperfections. Part were packed in (cal. pearl boxes,) holding a scant $\frac{1}{4}$ th bbl. each; about 96 apples filled a box; wrapped in white paper like oranges; a lever press used so covers would go on. Even then tops were all bowed up in the middle. Boxes were placed on end in car, so no further pressure should come on top or sides. The buyer called the box (a coming proposition.) Had found it a much better package for the English trade than the barrel. Easy to open for buyer's inspection, and the small quantity is an inducement to purchase. People in cities do not want to bother with a barrel of apples any more than with a barrel of sugar. And if apples are wrapped in paper, as they should be for the best European trade, the box is much more convenient than the barrel. Many regard Ben Davis a poor seller, but this buyer had found it profitable in London. He is a N. Y. apple merchant, securing west what the east cannot furnish; Kan. has been getting back, this year, part of the money spent for York State apples before it was found that Kan. was an apple state. Every year there is improvement in the methods of putting American fruit into European markets. The distance, time, expense and uncertainty are largely overcome. Europe, now our next door neighbor, can absorb an enormous surplus of apples at remunerative prices.—E. TAYLOR, in Western Fruit Grower.

Alternating Jonathan and Ben Davis is a good plan according to my judgment.—J. Y. STONE, Mills Co., Ia. [Gen. Stone has 100,000 trees in a solid block; read figures from his own experience, «Profits of an Apple Orchard.】

Would have money to burn if all my 4000 bbls. of apples had been Jonathan. One carload sent to Chicago was Jonathan and Ben Davis. The No. 2 Jonathan brought \$3 a barrel, the No. 1, \$4.75, the fancy, \$5.50. Ben Davis brought \$2.10 a bbl.—except a lot that I labeled «New York Pippin,» and they brought \$2.60, which shows «What's in a name?» My advice to the people is to plant Jonathan trees, and plant lots of them. They yield as well, and far outsell Ben Davis or Geneton.—JESSE E. ROVER, Monroe Co., Mo.

Ben Davis, 8-yrs. planted 25x25 ft., average per tree 4 bu., best trees $7\frac{1}{2}$ bushels.—COLO. FARM & LIVE STOCK CO. Over 20 years ago I set sixty varieties; 50 Bellflower; they proved a failure; also Baldwin, Greening, N. Spy and many others. I also planted too many sweet apples. It would have paid me thousands of dollars had I planted of every 1000 apple trees, 500 or more Ben Davis, 200 Jonathan, 75 Winesap, etc. Were my land limestone I would plant Grimes Golden in place of Jonathan. Willow Twig is profitable, but it blights—more than all other sorts combined. If cold storage advances as it should, planters should set fewer Ben Davis, more Jonathan. Americans are critical; they want a better apple and will not be satisfied with Ben Davis, of which more have been planted the last ten years than of all others combined. The last five years more Jonathan have been planted than any ten years before. It is a poor nursery tree, therefore nurserymen do not urge its planting; but after the

Black Ben Davis,--"has greatly excelled Ben Davis in my orchard."--J. F. BAIN.

**STARK
BROS**

first three years it grows well. Jonathan is one of the best; a late fall, or early winter apple, but in cold storage can be kept until the next year's crop ripens. I made mistakes planting apple trees over 2-yr. old, peach over 1-yr. old; also in topping or heading low. I now aim in trimming to avoid forks, growing a center limb or leader. Plowing deep close to trees is injurious; shallow, frequent culture is beneficial.—JACOB FAITH, Vernon Co., Mo.

Planting an orchard: We planted in fall, 1200 trees, Ben Davis, with Jonathan; spring planting is better. I don't plant older trees than 2-yr., and dig large holes. An orchard must be cultivated; light yields and weak trees are due to lack of cultivation. But is an orchard a valuable thing on a farm? Most assuredly. We sold \$500 worth of apples the 6th year, and many were lost from lack of time to gather; this year 1200 barrels. Apple growing is becoming very remunerative in these parts, and we may expect it to increase. That there is money in it, experience and observation prove.—D. C. WING, Cooper Co., Mo., in Western Fruit Grower.

BLACK BEN DAVIS (Trade-Mark).—This great seedling of Ben Davis, we believe all orchardists would plant instead of Ben Davis, if they knew as much about it as we do. To say the very least, it marks a decided IMPROVEMENT: **More beautiful solid red color, better quality, better keeper, surer bearer**—four very important points. Far ahead of Gano: decidedly larger, fully as large or larger than Ben Davis; Gano is smaller. Longer keeper and does not «scald» in cold storage; both Gano and Ben Davis do scald. A more solid, deeper red color; Gano often lacks color. Very much better quality; Gano is no better than Ben Davis. We are firmly convinced that **wherever Ben Davis succeeds**, there Black Ben Davis will succeed, and be immeasurably more profitable. It originated with M. Black in N. W. Ark., some 28 years ago. Later, 9 trees were grafted and set in J. F. Bain's orchard where they have regularly excelled Ben Davis—bearing some years (as in 1896), **when Ben Davis failed**. FM. NCS.

Such apples as these Black Ben Davis will sell better in the English market and I would pay more for them, than for any other variety I have seen in the state.—J. B. HAMBIDGE, Ont., Canada, exporter to Liverpool market.

Made a trip to Ark. to see your new apples—a **sight well worth** time and trouble.—M. E. JONES, Jackson Co., Mo.

Don't break so badly as Ben Davis, and my 9 trees have **not failed to bear** since bearing age, but Ben Davis in same rows and same age, have failed several times. Much **higher color** than Ben Davis, **better quality, better keeper**, better size,—**better nearly every way**. **One of the finest things** that can be grown.—JOHN F. BAIN, Ark.

Distinct seedling, a **first-class apple**—**cannot speak too highly of its merits**.—J. F. BAIN, in Practical Farmer, Phila.

Concerning apples of which I inquired: Some days after that issue of your paper I rec'd a letter from J. F. Bain, of Ark., who speaks with authority, and is justly entitled to be heard. I quote: «Here Winesap is called Black Twig. But Mammoth Black Twig is a very large, fine eating apple, brownish red; a fine grower, but with us a shy bearer, perfectly hardy. Ripens later than Winesap and Ben Davis, and is a good keeper. The parent tree is over 60 years old, and all the trees in Ark. have come from it; also all that Stark Bro's have.» Now, this comes direct and unsolicited from one who knows the parent tree. In regard to Black Ben Davis, he says: «Black Ben Davis is from my orchard, of which I have the only trees in the world bearing. Stark bought the scions and apples from me and has the apple very correctly plated in his book, and speaks very highly of it, but does not overrate it. The trees are easily mistaken for Ben Davis, but the fruit is entirely unlike. It's a large apple, larger than Ben Davis, a crimson red, solid, no streaks, very fine flavored, splendid eating, and keeps here until April. A sure bearer, trees hardy. The apple has created the greatest excitement.»—GEO. D. BOWERS, Caldwell Co., Mo., in Practical Farmer, Phila.

They Stand Drouth.—J. Schlaefli, one of the best posted orchardists of N. W. Ark., writes: Black Ben Davis, Apple of Commerce and Champion are **holding up better** during the present **3 months' dry spell** than Ben Davis, Mammoth Black Twig or any other variety,—and this, of course, is saying a great deal.



Black Ben Davis--Section of young tree in orchard of J. F. Bain.

Twelve Millions of dollars is the value of Missouri's apple crop for 1897, against 11 millions for 1896. As to varieties thus far in bearing, Ben Davis holds its own. But there are close competitors for first place in the near future. Among them, Senator and Black Ben Davis.—C. W. MURTFELDT, Hort. Ed., in St. Louis Republic.

Western Ass'n Nurserymen: Demand for nursery stock unusually good, and supply light. This especially true of commercial apple trees, which are sold out very close, with prospect of entire supply being exhausted before spring; some nurseries entirely sold out already, and few have any to offer except with other stock.

EXTRA BEN DAVIS.—Seedling of Ben Davis—another product of that "actual vast Exp. St'n," conducted for 70 years in the Ozark region, people planting seeds of the best apples they knew.

"Ky. Red," as they call Ben Davis, was brought from Ky. before the time when it was also taken to Ill.—where its name was changed to Ben Davis. Of the numerous Ben Davis seedlings, Black Ben Davis is easily chief. Etris is very like Gano. So is Cole Ben Davis. Several others seem fully as good, but no better than the parent.

For the last dozen years scions of what he calls Extra Ben Davis have been regularly grafted for L. Holt—who yearly sold all the trees to those who knew the sort. The photo shows an 8-yr. tree in the orchard of J. Schlaefli. We have had the apple 3 years, but knowing it was less valuable than Black Ben Davis, hesitated to grow



"EXTRA BEN DAVIS" is like Ben Davis but MUCH LARGER, BETTER KEEPER, said to be surer bearer; red, on deepest RICHEST GOLDEN yellow

STARK
NURSERY



Black Ben Davis. . .

J. B. Hambidge, of Ontario, Canada, buying apples for Liverpool, Eng., market (and who stands in left foreground), says:

"Would pay more for Black Ben Davis than any other apple I've seen in the State."

it until last spring—when a bushel of the apples came out of our ordinary cellar surprisingly **sound, large, beautiful, good.** **One-half larger** than Ben Davis. **Better keeper.** Not quite so much red, but the yellow a wonderfully rich deep golden. Perhaps a little better in quality. Tree a fine bearer, said to excel Ben Davis. It most certainly was far ahead as we saw it the past dry season. KM. NCS.

Bright Red Apples are wanted, handsome dessert apples of high quality. Prof. Green, before **Ohio Hort. Soc.**, urged the planting of York Imp'l and Jonathan. The latter is bringing \$1 per barrel more than other varieties in the Cleveland market this winter. Red Canada, Rambo and other varieties formerly in demand, are no longer profitable because of the prevalence of the scab fungus.—Fruit Grower.

All in the Point of View.—In reply to H. S. T., asking advice in planting Jonathan as a commercial apple, I would say—DON'T. Jonathan is a slow grower either **in nursery** or orchard [see Jacob Faith, pages 10 and 11]. . . As a **nurseryman**, fruit grower or buyer of fruit, I can not see **any advantage in red apples!**—*, Mo., in Rural World.

Cold Storage Pays.—We have gathered first crop from C. T. H. orchard. Chicago buyers offered \$1 per barrel on trees and do their own picking. Also made good offer for orchard as it stood. We gathered the fruit, and on track refused \$2 per bbl.; have put in cold storage. Chicago firms early said Ben Davis likely worth \$4 in spring. At lowest offer made, \$1 per bbl. on trees, this orchard will pay nearly \$2 per tree. What will next crop be worth, of say 2 to 3 bbls.? Or wait later and get 3, 5 or 7 bbls. per tree?

Cold storage will yet become the great reliance of fruit growers. Before long you will see a revolution in the apple trade. Winter apples will not be a necessity. Cold storage solves the difficulty. Probably before two years you will see in every fruit district co-operative cold storage houses, based on the World's Fair cold storage buildings. Fall apples put into cold storage, temperature 34°, may be kept indefinitely.—Prof. CRAIG, Ont., Exp. Farm.

H. H. Hort. Soc.: Have had Grimes Golden in cold storage when I could **hardly keep buyers from breaking in** and getting them at \$2.50 a barrel, other apples selling at \$1.25. . . Of early winter varieties Grimes Golden, Jonathan and Rome B'ty, on account of their **valuable market qualities**, should have our best care and attention, so that we can place them **on the market later**—and **command highest price.** Such apples can be **kept perfectly in cold storage** if picked **in time** and placed immediately in storage.—H. M. DUNLAP, Sec'y and ex-Pres't.

Blenheim (Lord Nelson).—An English apple, largely grown there and in Canada. Will not keep well. Fall. **Buckingham** (true Fall Queen, Equinete, etc.).—Excellent, but Nonpareil is far better; so is Wealthy.



STARK
BROS

CHAMPION, 8-yr., in orchard
of D. Branscombe, who says:
"Wish ALL my orchard
was Champion and Senator"

CHAMPION (Coss' C., C. Red, Collins Red).—Of our new N. W. Ark. apples, only this and Senator were ever exhibited before 1895,—when they were shown at the STARK FRUIT FAIR. Both Champion and Senator have aroused much interest ever since shown at the World's Fair, where they took the lead among 60 worthy new sorts. In the locality where they have been largely grown for years they **lead Ben Davis**, one planter saying, «Wish ALL my trees were Senator and Champion;» another, «Wish all my M. B. Twigs were Champion.» Excels Willow Twig in value,—in color, beauty, smoothness, **keeping**. For **quick and sure profit**, Champion equals, perhaps surpasses, Mo. Pippin—yet the old 40-yr. tree, on poorest white post-oak flat soil, is without defect and, with no care, yearly bears most perfect fruit. (See photo.) Even in shape—**every apple perfect**, as though turned in a lathe. Medium to large, golden yellow, covered with bright red—in finely penciled streaks, broader stripes and, on the sunny side, often deep solid red. Flesh yellow, juicy, good, and **does not become dry**, even in late spring—yet high **FLAVOR** is its one lack. Keeps well and long—longer than any other we have except Apple of Commerce. Colors **EARLIER** than Ben Davis, but will **hang much longer**, tree bears younger and fuller, is **strong jointed**, shoudered like E'y Harvest, never splits; tough, hard to break; **grand foliage**.

The week before our first visit to the Olden Fruit Co. searched the country, seeking a **market apple** which would HANG LONGER than Ben Davis. They found Champion and will plant it largely,—as we ourselves shall do, planting it close up with Black Ben Davis and Apple of Commerce. FM. NCS.

How many Champion scions can you get? Our buds will furnish a good lot, as it branches better than any other Ozark sort. One of the best growers; 1-yr. buds have perfect heads. We must graft every scion of Champion, Ap. Commerce and Black Ben Davis, Senator and Delicious, and figure on putting big lot into crop orchards

Champion, original
tree, some 40- yrs.
of age; in old field.
poor white soil.—
HOW poor, the corn
"nubbins" show.



STARK
BROS



CHAMPION, B-V., in
orchard of J. Schlaefli;
yield nearly 3
bbls. extra fine ap-
ples -- perfect as if
turned. Limbs bend
but rarely break

for quick returns; will beat any insurance investment 20, yes 100 fold.—W. P. STARK (to C. M. Stark, in Ark.) Champion is great. Will take the place of Mo. Pippin. And even now Ben Davis in same orchard has no color compared with Champion, which can hang for weeks yet, if necessary. **A great, grand apple.** The finest thing on the tree you ever saw, and can't be beat for color, even size and smoothness.—C. M. STARK, note from Ark. A new sort that is a winner. The apple is of good size, splendid red color, prolific bearer and one of the latest keepers known. Would plant it in preference to Springdale.—W. L. BUSH, Ark., in Farm & Home.

The old tree was about 3 inches in diameter and bearing full in 1867. At first was called Coss' Champion. In my orchard bears younger, better, and fuller than Ben Davis or any other.—G. W. COLLINS, Ark.

Attracted much attention at Atlanta. Of great merit,—long keeper, good quality.—Ark. Com'r Hort.

Dep't Agr.: Specimens sent by Prof. Stinson, Ark., and Stark Bros., Mo. Tree vigorous, with well-shaped top. Leaves, dark green. Fruit roundish oblate, large; yellow, with dull and bright red, splashed and striped with crimson; skin tough. Flesh yellow, satiny, crisp, moderately juicy; sub-acid; good.—U. S. POMOLOGIST.

Clayton.—Large, dull red, long keeper; abundant bearer, only fairly hardy; lacks color and QUALITY. M. C. Coffelt.—A Ben Davis x Limbertwig cross; IMPROVEMENT on Limbertwig; color usually too dull—LOOKS like Baldwin, but a FINE keeper. R. J. Scott planted 1000 1-yr. X size budded apple 4 years ago, Ben Davis, Coffelt, Gano, York Impl'. Says he will match his orchard of budded whole root trees against any orchard in the state. The growth reported from year to year has been really surprising, even to us. FM. CS. York Impl' very full, many trees will measure out 5 bushels apples per tree. **Coffelt a splendid crop.** Ben Davis and Gano but few bearing.—R. J. Scott, Independence Co., Ark.

Cooper E'y White.—Young bearer; unattractive color, poor quality; has proven unprofitable for market. K. C. Crawford.—From Ark. Large, yellow, very good; discarded because it scabs worse than almost any other.

DELICIOUS.—Hangs as well as Ben Davis, keeps as well, is as good a shipper (instead of decaying, bruises dry up like Ben Davis), as large, of finer color, as strong a grower, harder, bears as young and every year. Have never seen a man taste it but says it is the best apple he ever saw. Cooks easily and requires no sugar. Once introduced there will be but little call for Jonathan. If it is not a better apple than any in your large list it will cost you nothing. Am nearly 70, have raised apples all my life and would not willingly overestimate Delicious for 40 such apples.»

So wrote the venerable originator, Jesse Hiatt, of near Des Moines, Ia., when first sending us samples of Delicious. We found them extraordinarily fine looking, and in quality surpassing even Senator and Jonathan. But the next year he sent us two barrels—at once the most beautiful and most delicious apples we have ever seen,—no peer more delicious. From one of these was made the colored plate—to which words can add nothing. Likely a seedling of Yel. Bellflower; somewhat similar in shape, but immeasurably superior in quality, color, bearing. FM. NCS.

The originator further writes: «Delicious is a sprout that came up under a Yellow Bellflower, and was about 6 years from the ground when it fruited. Was so fine a fruit, I at once set some grafts and up-turned sod around tree, and it soon began making strong thrifty growths. Now about 15 years old and is 13 inches diameter at ground. Makes strong, vigorous growth, similar to Winesap, except

branches are **stronger** and need **little or no pruning**. Both tree and fruit are **perfect models**. Tree has **heavy, dark green foliage**, strong, finely moulded limbs, adapted to bearing great weights of fruit, and a body upright and giant like, with smooth dark bark. Does not sprout or sucker. Does not sunblight. Has **never shown** any signs of tenderness. During last 8 years, drouth and cold have killed three-fifths of my orchard, but **Delicious withstood it all right**. **Bears annually**, yields **large quantities of luscious fruit**. Both **beautiful and delicious**, praised by all who have tasted it; has a **peculiar quality that cannot be surpassed nor described**, and a delightful, fragrant aroma. **Brilliant, dark red**, often mingled with gold near blossom end. **Splendid winter keepers**, equal to Ben Davis."

Later.—"Delicious is greatly exciting everyone who tastes it. All declare it to be the **best apple in the world**, that the half has never been told. Will be a large sale here for the trees. Have Delicious apples in my cellar that will keep until April. **Later, 1897:** Delicious has another good crop this year."

DUCHESS (Oldenburg).—Hardy, profitable, especially far north; noted for its early bearing and endurance of severe winters; fine in Tex. and Ark.—and everywhere THE Great Cooking Apple. The demand for

Duchess in the Chicago market has never yet been met. Medium; streaked and shaded red; juicy, sprightly, sharp sub-acid. **Valuable** for market; fairly good for table—the **best summer cooking apple**.

Tree requires little or no pruning. **KITCHEN. MARKET. NNCs.**

An expert apple buyer for Newhall & Sons, the great Chicago apple firm, says there is more money in his 40-acre Duchess orchard in So. Ill. than any 200 acres of Ben Davis grown there. His books furnish the proof. R. C. Keel, Rochester, Minn., sold 2000 bu. apples last year, and will sell 1500 this year at \$2.25 a bbl. He showed many varieties at Minn. State Fair, and says **Duchess** and **Wealthy** are best.

III. Hort. Soc.: Duchess is THE commercial apple for Northern Ill.—J. V. COTTA.

Ia. Hort. Soc.: Had I valued Duchess for market 5 years ago as now, I would have 10,000 trees of it planted instead of 1000. For southern Ia., it is the most profitable for early market. Keeps well in cold storage. They are now put in cold storage till midwinter and served at hotels for dessert apples.—Dr. F. M. POWELL.

My best paying apple in its season, is Duchess.—S. T. COLE, Washington Co., Ark.

A Letter; STARK BRO's to Prof. H. E. VAN DEMAN: We do most heartily agree with you that there should be some standard of authority in nomenclature. But he who tries to do business on the markets in direct opposition to well established usage, would better not count on success. We have for years, in names, endeavored to follow the Am. Pom. Soc.; but when we ran against a large sized snag we then steered for the open channel. For instance, we used for several seasons, Oldenburg for Duchess apple, and Angouleme for Duchess pear. The result was no end of trouble and confusion. On the markets you can't buy «Oldenburg» apples, nor «Angouleme» pears; probably cannot find a single bushel of either on Chicago's great South Water St., while you'll find carloads Duchess apples, Duchess pears. Again, in discussions of even so eminent a society as the Western N. Y. Hort., one finds innumerable references to Duchess but ne'er a hint of Angouleme. Even the honored Pres't of the Am. Pom. Soc., himself, uses Duchess in his catalogue, as well as differs from the Am. Pom. Society's nomenclature in numerous cases. Without a doubt, he does so for good and sufficient reasons. No one cares to mention spots on the sun; but note Haas (called Hawse) which the Soc. says is a synonym of Horse; of course, all old-timers know that the Horse apple is wholly different. Then the confusion is worse confounded, giving Fall Queen as the correct name and Haas as a synonym. Now long years before the day of Haas (Gros Pomier), Fall Queen was (and is) the widely accepted name in Ky. and adjacent regions for Buckingham, or Equinately—as it is called in Ga. and south. A palpable mistake is dropping the «s» from Chairs Choice; also the «s» from Hynes Surprise, and writing «Steven's» Rarripe—with an apostrophe. We have fully followed the Soc. in dropping each unnecessary apostrophe and «s.» In no case do we use such terminations. But we would think ourselves taking undue liberties with the names of our horticultural friends who were sought to be commemorated in the names of these peaches, by arbitrarily cutting off the «s» from the name of Mr. Chairs, and from that of Capt. Hynes. By the same rule Jones Sdg. would become Jone! Too bad, if the final «s» of a man's name must necessarily be sacrificed because of a straining after theoretical simplicity—which does not simplify.

"—that which we call a rose, By any other name would smell as sweet."

still a name should mean something, be **easy to remember** and a **help** in distinguishing one sort from another.—But the foregoing is by no means directed against well-considered efforts toward reform; we simply must keep in mind that, bearing upon this question, there are more considerations than merely the one

Using the name Champion for the various names of Collins Red, etc., is perhaps a good change. Since we have the Div. of Pom. as a standard authority, with the Am. Pom. Soc., State Hort. Societies and Expt. Stations concurring, we should all consult that authority. . . . No doubt there are some commercial reasons why the standard names cannot all be adopted at once. You are not alone in that belief. With you I believe and know that there were many mistakes in the old Am. Pom. Soc. catalogue. . . . Chairs and Hynes are two notable cases of error, as I always contended. I know these men in person, as well as the peaches. . . . Wished I were with you in Ark. this fall to look over the new fruits, and «coming apples»—as well as the old ones.—Prof. H. E. VAN DEMAN.

Our Advice is to let **well-established names alone**. It has been found impossible to root out a well-established name. Attempts have resulted in **utter confusion**.—Meehan's Monthly, Prof. Thos. Meenan, Editor.

Colo. Apples to Armours.—R. J. Coffey has just bought two carloads apples for Armours—who were advised by the Stark Nursery to buy Colo. apples if they wanted the very best. This means a good deal more business in that line in the future with this company.—North Fork (Colo.) Times.

Above will do you much good among our orchard growers, as I paid \$1 per 40-lb. box, for all the Armour apples, cash, and free of all commissions or freight charges to sellers. Up to this time our people always had to pay 20% commission and freight charges out first—then if anything remained they got it. But now they are blessing Stark Bro's and Coffey all over Delta Co. for finding a way for them to reach out and get cash buyers and extra good prices. It will help people to see the difference between a live nursery and little one-horse firms. Many trees are wanted—Jonathan, Rome Beauty, with others of like quality. Armour's man went to see Wm. M. Hastings' orchard,—who gave him a great send off in favor of Stark trees. He is very proud of his orchard of Gold plum—and it is in fine condition. Armours appreciate the fine apples shipped them; there never were finer Jonathan, Winesap, Grimes Golden, Rome Beauty, Baldwin, etc., put into cars in America.—R. J. COFFEY. Car of apples rec'd., purchased through Mr. Coffey. They **certainly are the finest apples we have ever seen**.—AMBOUR PACKING CO., Cold Storage Dep't, Kansas City, Mo., Nov. 23, 1897.

Much more extensive spring planting will be done, but very different from former years, as every one wants **long keeping apples** and pears. Our present large apple crop is going out rapidly at $2\frac{1}{4}$ to $2\frac{3}{4}$ ¢ per lb., cash, and orchard men are all happy. All this new and welcome change has come about from your advising Armours to buy here. Apples were then going on commission entirely, 50¢ to 75¢ per 40 lb. box, and out of this came 20% com. and **all freight** charges. Sent Armours samples, gave them price and asked for further instructions. They were pleased with samples, sent a man to see our orchards, I drove him out, and he said, buy this year for trial

STARK TREES
BEAR FRUIT

STARK TRADE MARK

OVER 40 YEARS OLD.
GOOD FOR 40 MORE.

A STARK O.O.P. WHOLE ROOT TREE



at \$1 per 40 lb. box, and next year will likely contract for many carloads. Result is you are making warm friends among all our orchard men, for I tell them how this introduction of the Armour Co. was brought about through your good will and high opinion of Colo. fruits. Am now filling an order, same price, 2½¢ per lb., for Phila. Also learn it was you who told the F. W. Hanson Produce Co., Salt Lake, to write me.—R. J. COFFEY.
Have you noticed it?—the new « Catalogue of Fruits » sent out by the Agr. Dep't? Such unjust, untruthful statistics I never examined. Colo., they say, is a poor fruit state—only a few very hardy kinds of apple, three of apricot, eight of cherry, no peach at all, and only four kinds of worthless native plums, etc., etc. Will send Sec. Wilson a box of our apples, and tell him to examine for himself. Will also continue for a year sending him at proper season sample boxes of apple, pear, peach, cherry, and berries named in this book, so he at least may learn that here in Colo. we can, and do, grow every useful fruit named in his book. Then shall expect justice. But what was our own State Exp. College and State Hort. Soc. doing that such errors occurred?—R. J. COFFEY.

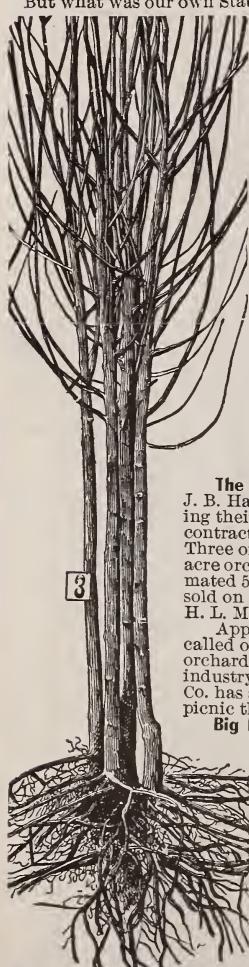
A Box of Fine Apples was sent by R. J. Coffey to Sec. of Agr. Wilson, which will convince him that Colo. can really raise fine fruit.—Delta, Colo., Independent.

England's Apple Buyers.—200,000 Barrels of Mo., Ill., Ark., Apples for Export.—Simmons, Shuttleworth & Co., Liverpool, England, represented by J. R. Shuttleworth and J. B. Hambidge, Ontario, Canada, having heard of our orchard system called on us to-day. They want to ship at least 1000 bbls. per day, 200,000 barrels or more for the season. We have cited them to many good points in Mo., Ill., and Ark. They expect to begin exporting from Ark., gradually working north. Apple growers with train loads of apples to sell should see them. They only buy **high colored fancy fruit**, selected, carefully packed. Exporting such fruit pays; doesn't pay to ship poor fruit to any market. . . . We are constantly being called upon by apple buyers from all sections of the east and growers need ponder but little to understand this means a short crop and that the grower can about name his own price. These English buyers again tell us what we all know, that while the foreign trade took over **3 million barrels** last year, the business is in its infancy and the quantity of apples they will take in the future, if they can get good fruit, is hard to estimate; or, as they say, **(there is scarcely any limit.)** In view of these facts successful growers will continue to plant orchards; some who ought to plant orchards, will continue to grow wheat and corn, but for the thinking, observant man, there is no surer investment than growing **high-class** sorts of apples. For years this has been our view, hence it was no guess work when we inaugurated our vast orchard system. Nor did Parker Bros. & Winans, large apple dealers in Chicago, make a mistake when they planted their apple orchard of 50,000 trees—and they are still planting. We know of other business men in Chicago and elsewhere, capitalists seeking good investments, who are buying land and planting orchards. Foreign countries want our fruit; their best apples come from America. Will our people supply them?—Stark Orchard Bulletin, June '97.

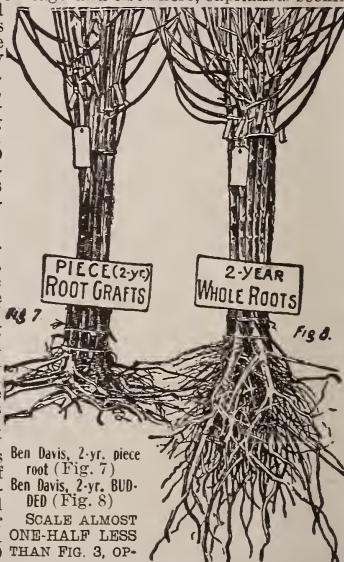
The foreign apple buyers you sent to our Co., J. B. Hambidge and J. R. Shuttleworth, are making their headquarters at Quincy and now making contracts. Their buying will create a furore. Three orchards sold; one of 10 acres for \$2000, 40 acre orchard \$3500, and one 15 acre orchard, estimated 5000 barrels, sold by the barrel; the others sold on the trees, buyer doing his own picking.—H. L. MESSICK, Adams Co., Ill.

Apple buyers representing a Liverpool firm, called on Stark Bro's yesterday to look into their orchard system. These gentlemen say that this industry will assume gigantic proportions. Pike Co. has a big lot of apples and will be in at the picnic this fall.—Louisiana (Mo.) Press.

Big Red Apples of Ark.—The Rogers' cannery factory is sold to northern capitalists. A full force will be put to work at once, and at least 100,000 bushels of apples canned this season. **This section is full of apple buyers** and the apple business continues to boom, there being a stiff demand from all over the U. S. Rogers has already shipped 100 cars or more, and other points are not far behind. Mr. Shuttleworth of Canada, is here buying apples for the export trade. Has already shipped several carloads, has several persons buying for him and will take 10 carloads a day. A Minn. City firm has contracted for 35,000 bbls., or about 175 carloads, and a Minneapolis house has just closed a deal for 40,000 bbls., or 200 carloads. The barrel factories here cannot supply demand.—Sierra Springs, Ark., special to Globe-Dem.



STARK BEN DAVIS, 2-YR XX SIZE, WHOLE ROOT GRAFTED.



BEN DAVIS, 2-yr. piece root (Fig. 7)

BEN DAVIS, 2-yr. BUD-DEO (Fig. 8)

SCALE ALMOST ONE-HALF LESS THAN FIG. 3, OPPOSITE.

Fig. 8.

**STARK
NURSERY**

MONT.O. THE KING

**STARK TREES
BEARFRUIT**

STARK TRADE MARK

FAME

TRADE MARK

PAINTED FROM NATURE
FOR STARK BROS.
Red. Litho. Co.

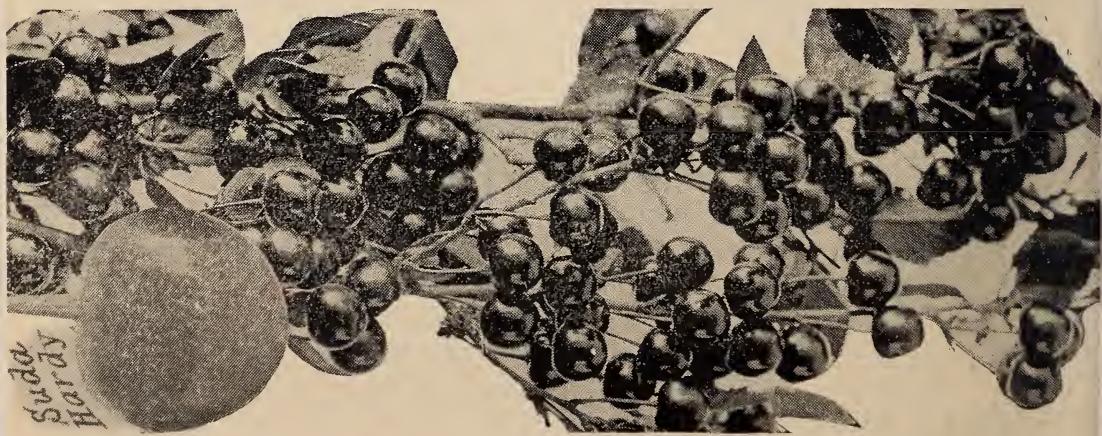
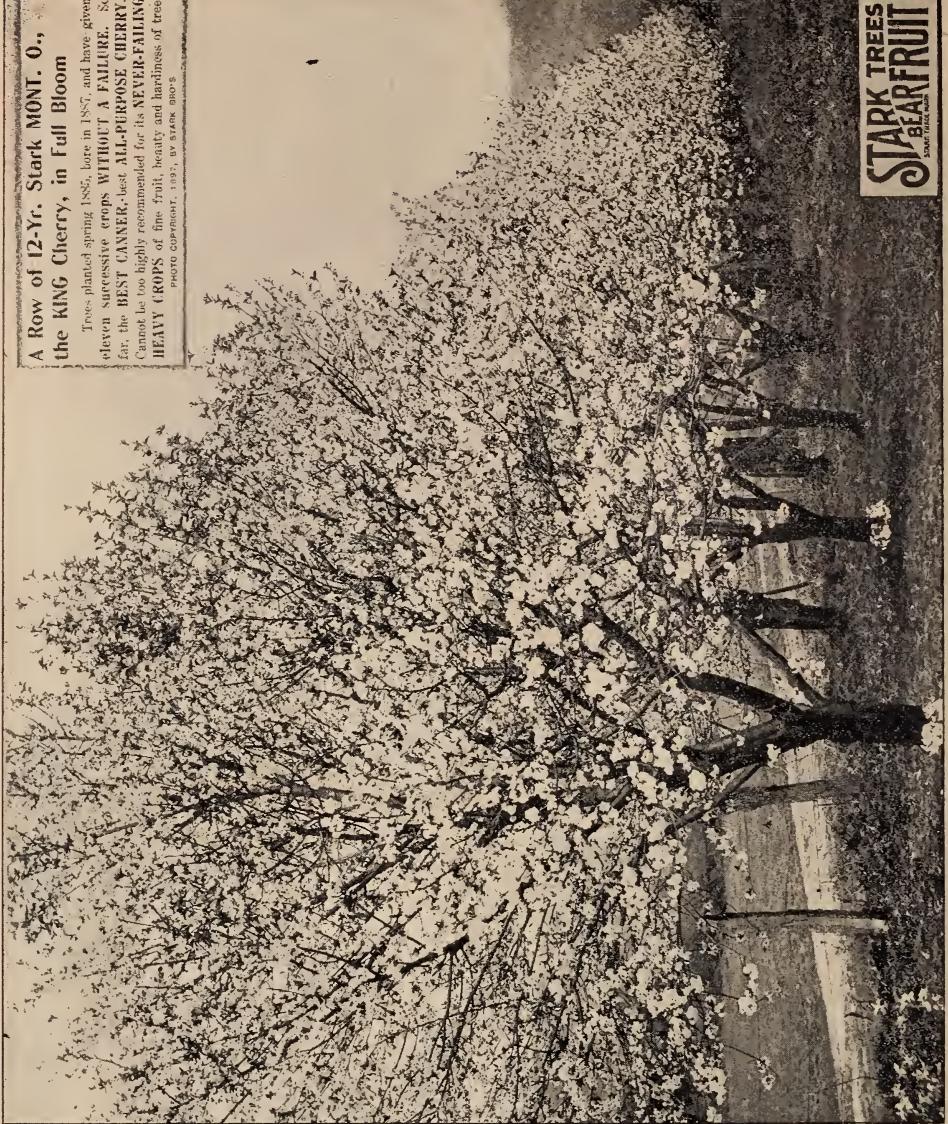
**STARK TREES
& BEARFRUIT**

Stark Bros.

**A Row of 12-Yr. Stark MONI. O.,
the KING Cherry, in Full Bloom**

Trees planted spring 1885, bore in 1887, and have given eleven successive crops WITHOUT A FAILURE. So far, the **BEST CANNER**-best **ALL-PURPOSE CHERRY**. Cannot be too highly recommended for its **NEVER FAILING HEAVY CROPS** of fine fruit, beauty and hardiness of tree.

Photo copyright 1907 by Stark Bros.



EARLY COLTON.—We get many reports showing this to be a better apple than Ey. Harvest. FM. NCS. Mich. Exp. St'n: Proves a young and prolific bearer. Desirable for home and market use. Has now borne two heavy successive crops of fine size and fair quality. Promises well for very early market.—Pres't T. T. LYON. A better apple than Ey. Harvest in flavor, not so soft and mealy, don't crack so badly in wet weather; about same size, but of longer shape, lighter yellow; fruit better distributed on tree.—Pres't E. A. RIEHL, Ill. Hort. Soc. A FINE-sized yellow apple; good and young bearer. Really an improvement on old Ey' Harvest.—J. W. KERR, Md.

Early Harvest.—No longer useful, on account of scab. Not profitable for market. F. CS.

Ill. Exp. St'n, 1896: One of the worst to scab. Not worthy of a place here.—Prof. T. J. BURRILL.

Pa. Hort. Soc.: Has been uncertain on account of the fruit growing so imperfect.—H. M. ENGLE.

EARLY MELON.—We paid \$1 each for young trees for our Exp. Orchard; and they are worth much more if this sort succeeds here as in Kan. and Ia. Certainly one of the really finest novelties among fruits.

Large; yellow, washed red, striped crimson; skin thin, tough; crisp, juicy; subacid; good. FM. NNCs. Most Remarkable apple in all my Exp. orchard. Tree and fruit slightly resemble Wine (Pa. Red Streak.) Trees have fruited for 9 years; in two of these years no others did fruit. In season in Aug.; have kept until Dec. Not a winter apple here, but north and in highlands of Colo. and northwest will keep later, yet in season so early. Will be a grand apple south and in Cal., where most other kinds become too sweet to cook well. Makes the richest apple pie, dumplings or sauce of all. Its quality EARLY is too tart for most tastes, yet not so sharp as Astrachan or Duchess, but even more juicy. Has market value, beauty, excellent cooking qualities. The trees bear full, but do not break. Fruit large, but is not blown off by winds as others are, nor does it drop in dry weather. The most productive of all, free from scab or fungus—more good qualities in a higher degree than any other apple I know.—A. H. GRIESA, Exp. Orchard, Douglas Co., Kan.

Good enough for anybody, and the introducer of such an apple, is a public benefactor.—S. D. WILLARD, N. Y. Especially pleased with Ey' Melon. Aromatic, rich; color, shape, size, make it attractive.—Prof. L. H. BAILEY, N. Y. Has a longer season of ripening than we had supposed, therefore of greater value.—WM. A. TAYLOR, U. S. Pom' st.

Early Ripe.—Very like Ey' Harvest, more free from scab. Not hardy nor productive enough. F. CS.

Early Strawberry.—After growing it for over half a century, we reluctantly discard—tender, pleasant and ripens through a long season, but Summer King and Benoni are 1st CHOICE. F. C.

Fallawater (Tulpehocken).—Very large, coarse; falls badly, decays quickly; not hardy. Fall. F. C.

Fall Pippin.—Formerly very fine but of late years ruined by scab. F. C.

Mich. Exp. St'n, 1897: Large, of superior quality, tardy, thin bearer; much inclined to scab.—T. T. LYON.

Fameuse (Snow).—Hardy, young bearer, fine quality; valued east, but very subject to scab. F. NC.

Ill. Exp. St'n, 1896: Undesirable for planting here, though it has done well in many places.—Prof. T. J. BURRILL. WEALTHY was a revelation and proved what might have been had we planted more. Bears early, is a fine fruit and should take the place of fameuse—which is a sad sight this fall. Spots of fungus spread upon Fameuse trees, stop their growth and spoil the fruit, while in the next row, Wealthy is fair and clean.—Am. Gardening.

FANNY.—Superior to most summer apples in beauty and quality, but Sum'r King is finer, a week earlier. My trees not producing well, would not recommend Fanny for a commercial orchard.—J. S. GAYLORD, Kan., '95.

GANO.—Very like, and fully EQUAL to, Ben Davis, except not quite so large; redder, and perhaps a slightly superior keeper. Fully as profitable for market as Ben Davis. KM. NCS.

Have now handled Gano'in quantity; a better seller than Ben Davis, on account of high color; also a better keeper. One orchard here of 60 acres; another grower has 40 acres.—G. W. CHASE & SON, wholesale fruits, St. Jo., Mo. A chance seedling. Medium size, brilliant red, fair quality, late keeper.—Prof. H. E. VAN DEMAN, in Rural N.-Y. Mich. Exp. St'n, 1896: Ripened its first crop this season; beautifully colored; ranks as a market fruit.—T. T. LYON. MEEHAN plants 100 out of 270 acres to Gano.—Nat'l Nurseryman. Mo. Hort. Soc.: Gano is a commercial leader. As young, and perhaps, a better bearer than old Ben, not as spongy; prefer Gano for market.—C. STEINMAN, Ia. I still adhere to Ben Davis as most profitable, but have 35 acres more to plant, and shall set Gano, if it does as well this year as heretofore. This will make me 475 acres, over 400 acres Ben Davis.—J. A. BAYLES, Mo.

GENETON (Ralls Genet, Neverfail, etc) —Medium, striped dull red, sub-acid, very good when well grown. Once the most extensively grown market and family apple in the west, and still one of the best, when given good culture and not allowed to overbear. FAMILY. MARKET. CENTRAL.

GENETON IMPROVED (Dr. Walker).—Ky. seedling of Geneton, but better. Very like Stayman Wine-sap both in looks and quality—and this is high praise. Blooms late, like Geneton. FM. CS.

Gravenstein.—Excellent, especially for home use, but not so fine nor valuable as Sum'r King. F. CS.

Ill. Exp. St'n: Good to best in quality, but not valuable because not productive, and too small for market.

Greening, N. W.—Rec'd some years ago from Wis., but has not proven valuable.

N. Y. Exp. St'n: Coarse, fair quality; has not enough acidity to be desirable for culinary use.

Ia. Hort. Soc.: Has proven entirely tender in tree in northern Ia.—C. J. PATTEN, Floyd Co., Ia.

Greening, R. I.—A favorite winter apple east, but of late, badly affected by scab. Not hardy west; FALL.

GRIMES GOLDEN.—Quality unexcelled and one of the most profitable late fall and early winter apples.

Particularly valuable for its late blooming. Medium to large; golden yellow, flesh a deeper golden still; aromatic, spicy, rich. Vigorous and productive, even while yet young. Fine in S. W. Iowa, west Colo., etc., but not quite hardy in Stark Denver orchards. Fine in Ark.—where it is miscalled «Bellflower.» FM. CS.

Warder's Am. Pomology: Quality very best; use, dessert; TOO GOOD for aught else.

U. S. Pomologist: In North Carolina orchards Grimes Golden, Ralls Geneton and Rome Beauty are found very valuable owing to their late blooming. York Imperial is also extensively planted.

For profit plant mainly Ben Davis with some Grimes Golden.—Pres't J. C. EVANS.

Colo. Hort. Soc.: One of the best apples there is, not only for profit but for quality of fruit.

O. Hort. Soc.: A grand apple. Good to eat, cook, sell. W. W. FARNWORTH. Pa. Hort. Soc.: Quality unsurpassed.

Mo. Hort. Soc.: One of the commercial leaders. Mr. Bell, wholesale apple shipper, spoke strongly in favor of Grimes Golden, Jonathan, Winesap, Ben Davis, Gano.

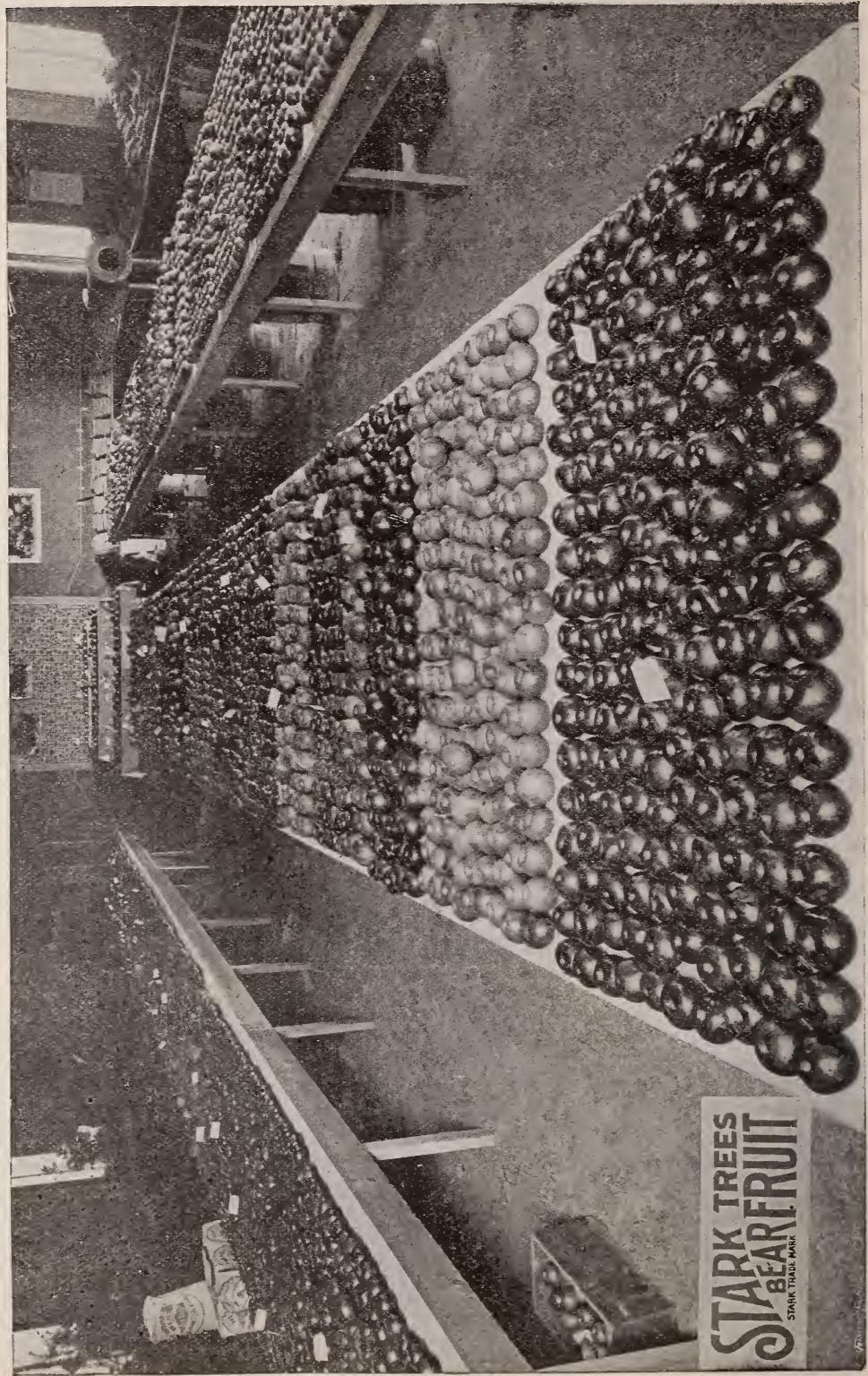
Mo. Hort. Soc.: As a family apple, stands decidedly first. Unusually attractive, a good grower, prolific bearer.

Mo. Hort. Soc.: Jonathan and Grimes Golden are the very acme of excellence in the apple, for any purpose. I regard Grimes Golden the most desirable and elegant table apple in existence.—J. H. KARNES, Buchanan Co., Mo.

The finest apple in Va. Spicy flavor, good to use Aug. 15, will keep until March. Bears young, and full crops every year. Would not exchange it for any apple in the U. S. None superior.—J. W. LARKEY, Scott Co., Va.

The original tree, in Brook Co., West Va., was, some years ago, 80 years old and still sound.—Pres't N. F. MURRAY, Mich. Exp. St'n: Good family apples are: Yel. Transp't, Sw't Bongh, Duchess, Jefferis, M. Blush, Wealthy, Wolf River,

Baldwin, N. Spy, Bellflower, Grimes Golden, Jonathan, Rome Beauty, Winesap. Yel. Transp't particularly valuable early variety; young bearer, large, light lemon-yellow, pleasant flavor; well worthy a place for local market. Duchess, Jonathian, Baldwin, Winesap, if planted in larger numbers than for home use only, would furnish a supply for sale. In planting for shipment it is unwise to choose too many varieties. They should be productive, good size and color, of at least fair quality. In all parts of Mich., Baldwin and N. Spy are valuable for market. Ben Davis is also largely planted. Wagener, unless thinned and given high cultivation, is small, trees short lived. With good care Jonathan is preferred to King, as its medium size, rich color, high quality, make it sought for as a dessert apple and for street stands. Grimes Golden is also profitable.—Prof. L. R. TAFT.



STARK TREES
BEARFRUIT
STARK TRADE MARK

**STARK TREES
BEAR FRUIT**

Since 1848

**From
Time
Immemorial**

overproduction
of fruit has been
a mild but perennial
prophecy. And with
the passage of time, these
pessimistic utterances seem
constantly to have grown in
volume—grown so great, indeed
that, during later cycles, their by
no means confident note,—a note
sickled o'er, perplexed, bewildered
withal,—has given a tone all their own to
many a prolonged and dismal wail—so great
has been the change!—

Even as dreamy mornars of perfumed zoophys in spring—
into loaſe nows which malignant denonias fling—
In winter, at midnight, sleek-clad, as wildly fast,
Their caverns of horror, they are borne on the blast.

Lamentations about « overproduction, »

come chiefly from men who are shut in by a very circumscribed horizon, men who know nothing of the actual size of the world nor of the multiplied wants of the hosts thereof; and for that matter very few of us really know what it takes to supply even our own 70 millions. They want, ay, **must** have, fruit. Who will supply them, apples say,—wanted in some form, every day of every year, by every man, woman, child, in the civilized world?

A Big Red Apple

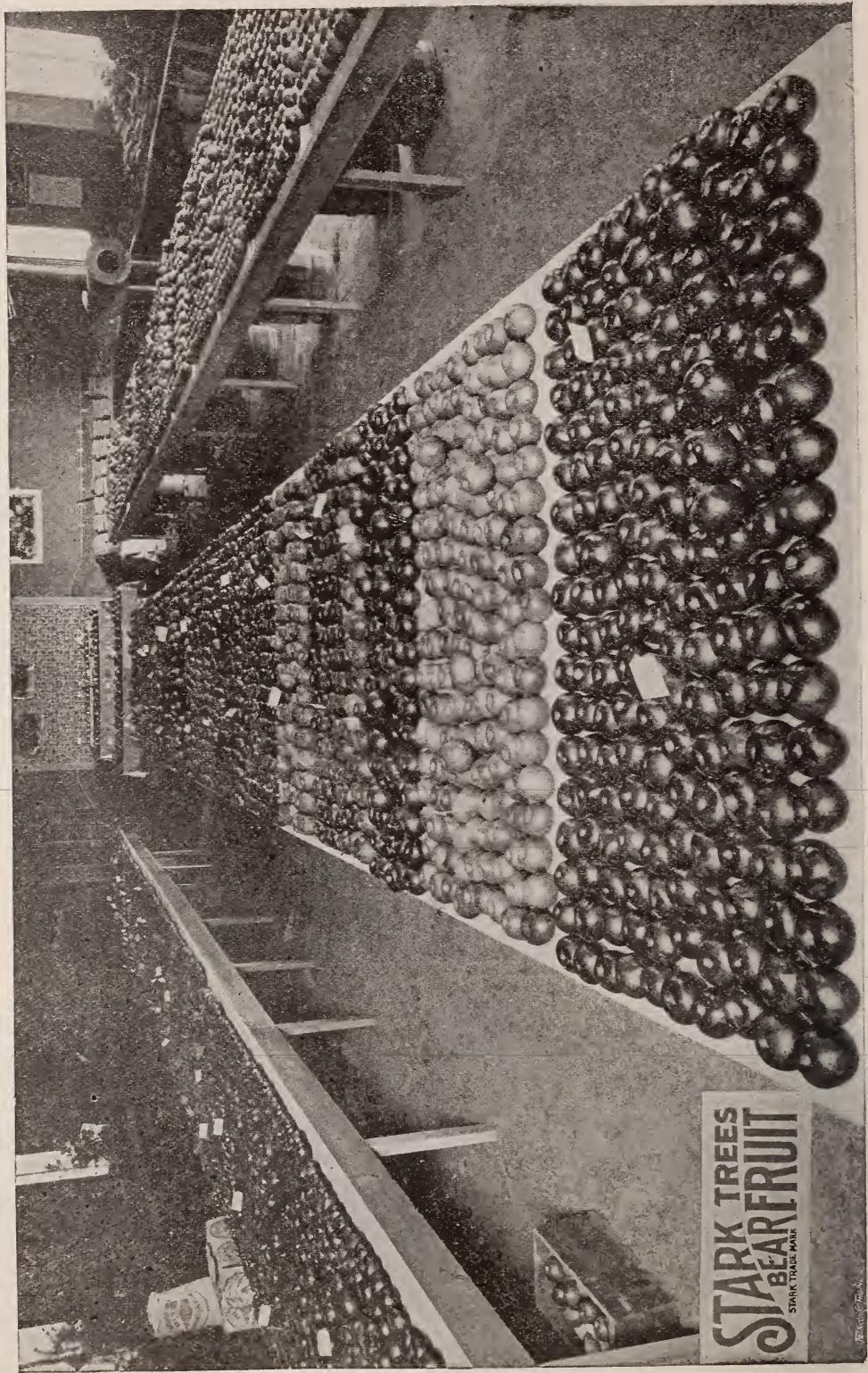
Fruit Fair

Lies upon our writing table, suggestive of the noon hour. What blending of delicate cloud colors, what artistic auroral hues. To-day 10,000 employers and employees in this great city will take each a big red apple from his lunch basket at noon. In the great woods north, the lardy lumberman in Wis., or Minn. forests, will sit upon a prostrate trunk, just tickled, and placing his apple in full view, will feast his eyes upon it, while devouring his pork and beans. The hunter about the Great Lakes, in the solemn leasons of forest, as it comes toward 12, will feel of his hay-sack to see that his apple is still there—and thus all rejoice in the same fruit which all eat with equal delight.—Interior.

Children with eager eyes—who has not seen them watching the apple stands? How many of them are fairly famishing for fruit!

And unnumbered thousands of wee tots must allay nature's craving for fruit juices with cheap chemical-vinegar-made pickles! Poor fruit-hungry It'll be a long time yet before you cry « overproduction, »

Made of Mashed Turnips, apple cores and peelings, and stale figs!—such is the ‘Pure raspberry’ jam in our markets.”—No prophetic ability is needed, but only good common sense, to see the future of American orchards, and to predict that ere long, when our **BEST** apples are found in the world’s greatest markets, the American apple orchard will be a more important factor than ever. But the export apple of the future will be BETTER than Ben Davis!



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Even as dreamy mornings of perfumed zephyrs in spring—
In wavy, amethystine mists, and dewy drizzling
There are, in infinite places, as utility set
Lamentations about “overproduction,” however,
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And unnumbered thousands of wee tots must allay nature's craving for
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Poor fruit-hungry
Made of Mashed Turnips, apple cores and peelings, and stale figs!—such is the ‘Pure
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STARK

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Haas (Gros Pomier; erroneously, Fall Queen; Horse).—Not nearly equal to Wealthy—except a much finer nursery tree, hence largely grown. Has gained most of its sale, not only by being mistaken for Horse, but also by usurping a name of Buckingham—widely known as Fall Queen long before the day of Haas.

Horse (Yellow Horse).—Large, green; acid; good for cooking and drying, but even Maiden Blush is better.

III. Exp. Stn: Bore a fair crop in 1886, '88, and a few apples in 1891, '94, '95. Sub-acid, rich, but not pleasant.

HUNTSMAN (H. Favorite).—Large, flat; yellow, bronzed cheek, fine grained, but insipid. Its record of 30 years in our orchards shows it to have been unprofitable, as compared with other market sorts,—scanty yielder, scalds easily, deficient in flavor. Yet it sells well—but not often to the same buyer. When we have put a bbl. or so in home cellars, no one cares to eat them,—preferring even Ben Davis. M. C.

INGRAM.—An Ozark seedling of Geneton, greatly valued where known. Good grower, late bloomer, young, regular and abundant bearer. Medium, conical; red and yellow, bright when ripe; very late keeper. Stands freezing and thawing without injury. Its pleasant flavor, good color and splendid bearing and keeping qualities have made it very popular for home use or market. Brings highest prices, as it keeps until June, when all the old well known apples are gone. FM, CS.

Experience with Ingram in my own orchard: Crop now in storage is my second. The first year, bore a little better than Ben Davis. This year 450 Ingram trees bore 325 bbls. of fruit, sold for \$3 per bbl.; 1200 Ben Davis bore 300 bbls., sold for \$1.90 per bbl. So far Ingram is way ahead of Ben Davis for a market apple; blooms later, hangs well, and there is scarcely any waste.—W. T. CLARK, Barton Co., Mo., May 22, '97.

We Have Found a new apple this year that beats Ben Davis, not only as a good keeper but as a fine appearing apple, having the added advantage of being juicy and palatable. It is the Ingram. Not quite so large as Ben Davis. Beautifully marked in red and yellow, fine flavor. Had in cold storage 304 bbls. put in Nov. 1; the first of May we took out the first at \$2.50 per bbl., and found them in perfect condition, with no deterioration either in juiciness or flavor. Since, the price has been to \$3.50, and expect before closing out to realize \$4 to \$4.50 per bbl., which is at least \$2.25 per bbl. more than any apple has yet brought in this market this year. In 150 bbls. sold so far, but one barrel contained imperfect apples, and this barrel had so few that the shrinkage practically amounted to nothing.—H. E. F., Kan, City, Mo., in R. N.-Y., May 22, '97.

A Payer and a stayer; doing well here; bears young and every year. Leaves out late, blooms late—misses late frosts. Keeps sound, looks fresh and bright, and tastes apple-like, in May, and keeps well into June. On our fruit stands now (May 26, '97); no other apple in market. Remains hard until in Feb. or Mar. «Weak points?» Well, it is rather small, about size of Geneton; trees set too full to grow large apples. «Strong points?» Sure bearer every year. Late keeper; keeps until after all apples here are gone, and keeps clean and sound to the core. Very little affected by insects. Good quality in its season—a spring apple. If we have a hot and late fall Geneton here rots on the tree; outside may look fair, but rotting from the core. But Ingram keeps better and much later than Ben Davis or any other apple I know.—Dr. J. H. WOODWARD, Greene Co., Mo.

The Ben Davis Beater; think more of Ingram than of any other apple. Comes into bearing with Ben Davis but a better apple. If you let trees overbear, apples grow small like Geneton.—L. K. HASELTINE, Greene Co., Mo.

Mo. Hort. Soc.: Ingram is a success with us. One man who has 120 acres of it sold his apples in the spring for \$3.50 per bbl. Good bearer, and very regular. A good crop last year when we had nothing else, because of frost. Keeps splendidly until May. Strong upright grower, fruit sets close to the limb, not pendant like Ben Davis.

III. Hort. Soc.: Want to call attention to Ingram. Resembles Geneton somewhat, but much higher colored, equal, if not superior in quality, a better and longer keeper; larger, more uniform in size.

Ark. Hort. Soc.: Not a novelty, and where tested is being largely planted, some orchards containing 100 acres of it.

A Wonderful Apple in one respect—it's power and staying qualities in producing annually. Just about iron-clad, a small grower, long lived tree. Now the question is, can you find a market for the Geneton class of apples, to which Ingram belongs? It is a little larger and generally of better color; a 1st-class cider apple. Such apples will sell in some markets—the off-year at fairly good prices. There will be quite a call for them by growers for some time to come. I don't want that class of fruit, neither will I buy it if I can possibly find any other varieties. . . . My 1-yr. set Stark trees have made fine growth. Next year I will photo our 1000-acre orchard, and show something seemingly impossible; if it is not an advertisement for Stark trees, then they never had one, from 23 years experience in shipping and growing apples, I have found close planting of apple trees a mistake. Planting a block all one variety is a mistake. My plan is, plant your standard varieties 30 ft. each way, then follow in center of square with younger bearing or earlier ripening sorts, such as Champion, Mo. Pippin, Jonathan, Senator and others. Further, many of the old kinds, such as Ben Davis, will surely be laid on the shelf for those newer and better varieties. By planting in fillers we can then cut out the poorer variety. The first cost of trees is nothing, and costs no more to work. I prefer Senator, Jonathan, Mo. Pippin and Champion for fillers.—L. M. WINANS, Wright Co., Mo., of Parker Bro's & Winans, wholesale fruits, Chicago.

Last year, Parker Bro's & Winans planted THOUSANDS of 1-yr. Ap. Commerce, Black Ben Davis, Champion and Senator in their great orchard. Being in the wholesale apple business in Chicago and east, as well as great orchardists, they not only know what the market requires, but, more important still, what it will likely require in the near future—apples of higher class than Ben Davis, etc.

About Nurseries.—Many readers will be purchasing trees soon. There are many nurseries in this great land that do legitimate business and will not take advantage of the lack of information prevalent in the country. But alas, there are men (sharks!) who fleece the unsuspecting. All of these fellows do not represent northern or eastern nurseries, either. Texas has her share of these cattle. . . . Send to any advertiser . . . and if they fail to treat you right, report to us, and we will make it hot for any rascal. . . . The editor has personal acquaintance with many nurseriesmen who advertise in Tex. Farm & Ranch and can vouch for their fair dealing. . . . E. V. Dunn, gives an interesting account of his experience in fruit-growing, and incidentally confirms what we have just been saying about no locality having a monopoly of the rascals. Some are masquerading as nurseriesmen even in our own good state. Look out for the scamps.—Tex. Farm & Ranch, Jan. 1, '98.

Orchard Experience: My first venture was to buy 1800 trees from a Ky. nursery—1200 apple, 600 plum and peach. The apples were all piece-root trees and have proved very unsatisfactory. Would not plant another piece-root apple orchard if the trees were supplied gratis. . . . Four years ago, bought Elberta peach of one of our large home nurseries; all turned out to be Alexander. Of course I was disappointed. . . . Three years ago I traded with Stark Bro's, of Louisiana, Mo., for 2200 trees on the crop plan—1200 apple, 1000 Japan plum, Burbank, Abundance, Red June. Now have as fine a young orchard as a man ever saw. Had a good crop from them this year. Some of the Burbank had three bushels, Abundance nearly as many. But Red June heads the list of Jap plums. They are very hardy, ripen here June 1; I intend planting 500 more. But the Gold plum surpasses anything I've yet seen in the plain line. A 2-yr.-old tree of Gold bore quite a number of plums this year. Have some in a jar now. A little over 2 inches in diameter, globe-shaped, color of gold, ripe here Aug. 1 to 10. There is no plum that will beat Gold for quality. Trees now heavily loaded with fruit buds, —don't think there could be another bud crowded on limbs. If a man had an orchard of them planted he would not have to go to Klondike to get gold. Could have nuggets at home. This plum was originated by Burbank and introduced by Stark Bro's. Am making plums a specialty and have 2000 growing. Have an orchard of 5000 trees. The whole root trees now 3 years old are as large as the 6-yr.-old piece-root trees. Am still planting, so you see that in a few more years I can give 5¢ cotton the dodge.—E. V. DUNN, Tarrant Co., Tex., in Texas Farm & Ranch, Jan. 1, 1895.

Better than Newspaper Advertising in extending the sale of Stark Trees, is their hearty, personal commendation from neighbor to neighbor; hardly a fruit growing neighborhood in America but has Stark Trees in good and satisfactory bearing. They are cheap only in price. Better quality is impossible.



Steam Digging 2-yr. St'd Pear---1-yr. Roots

JEFFERIS.—One of the **BEST** apples grown. First sent us from Adams Co., Ill., where «it's the finest apple known.» Jesse Frazier, who has the oldest orchard in Colo., in 1883, showed us large trees, stating it was **HIS** favorite apple. The history of Jefferis shows how long it has often taken for a good apple to become known. But then—it **ISN'T** an easy tree to grow in nursery! FM. NCS.

The late Jno. Wragg, Vice-Pres't Iowa Hort. Soc., was wont to say: «The man who notes the value of a new fruit, introduces and spreads it abroad, is even a greater benefactor than the originator—who does scarcely anything if he lets it live out its life and die unknown. But he who sees its value and **distributes it widely**, does very much more than making two blades of grass grow where one grew before.»

Slow, expensive, hard work is required in introducing new apples,—no matter how superlative, how much better they are than old kinds. Many persons take it for granted that a variety cannot amount to much unless they find it mentioned in every catalogue or voted upon by every Hort. Soc. New berries are originated, puffed to the skies, tested and (too often) found wanting, discarded and forgotten,—all in less time than it usually takes for a new apple to prove its excellence even in the place of its origin; and thence after it has fully demonstrated its value there, it is a matter of long years before it becomes widely known. Jefferis originated more than 50 years ago, was brought to notice **forty odd** years ago,—yet it is found in few nurseries to-day. York Imperial was brought to public notice over forty years ago, but to-day it is little known in many parts of the country; yet it has created enthusiasm wherever tried—except, of course, when planted too far north for the tree to be hardy. Senator originated over 50 years ago, yet 5 years ago it was entirely unknown throughout the vast U. S.,—excepting alone in one single county.

Meehan's Monthly: When a fruit becomes widely scattered, it achieves popular favor, simply because people know no better. It was the fashion to take votes at Pomological meetings as to best varieties, and hundreds voted on the best they knew. **No new and superior variety** could get votes in this way. To-day there would be many votes on apples that would not include York Imperial—but the vote would only prove that it takes time for superior varieties to become well known.—Prof. THOS. MEEHAN.

Force of habit is strong in the nurseryman, as in other people. Besides, there's less risk—and cost—in raising strong growing, well known, sure-to-be-called-for sorts,—M. Blush, say. For people **WILL** plant what everybody plants, never stopping to learn WHY. The Exp. Stations, however, are doing a great work, citing some of these hoary old kinds to show cause for their not being held out-of-date and no longer profitable. For example, Prof. T. J. BURRILL, **Illinois Exp. St'n** says:

Of the varieties recommended by the State Hort. Soc., and planted in the Exp. orchard, **Red Astrachan** was not only a shy earer, but fruit was usually more or less imperfect. **Sops-of-Wine** has not proved so good, or so productive, as Red Stripe. **E'y Harvest** scabbed so badly as to be almost beyond recognition. **Red June** bears fairly well, but too small, apt to be scabby. **Maiden Blush** would not have attracted attention either from quality or appearance; though one of the most popular of fall apples, it has not done well here. **Willow Twig** proved to be short lived. **Minkler** has always been unproductive. **Fall Orange** and **Lowell** have not borne **so much or such perfect fruit** as Jefferis—which is among the **BEST 17, OUT OF 1200** sorts tested. Medium size, pale yellow, striped, splashed, marbled red, with crimson. Very tender, juicy, with a rich, mild, very pleasant sub-acid flavor; **quality best** for either dessert or kitchen. Core **very small**. Has borne with **regularity**, sometimes **very heavy crops**. Large grower, with upright, branches, hardy, healthy. Ripens Aug. 20 to Sept. 15.

Am. Pomology, Warder: First described in 1853. Flesh yellow, breaking, fine-grained, juicy, aromatic, delicious. Choicest early fall apple known to me; has been planted slightly all over the country, and in **all cases highly praised**. Tree upright, forming a beautiful head; one of the **most constant, abundant** bearers.—Prof. VAN DEMAN.

Same season as M. Blush, but **so much better** than that old favorite, in color and in quality, while equal in productiveness, that, for my own use, I drop Maiden Blush.—A. H. GRIESA, Exp. Orchard, Kan.

Make your order to include Jefferis—if you intend planting apple trees. One of the best apples, ripening in succession for several weeks; sprightly, rich, of highest flavor.—S. L. ALBERTSON, Long Island, in Gardening.

Mich. Exp. St'n: Has few, if any, superiors; beautiful and excellent. No family orchard or village or city fruit garden should be without it.—Pres't T. T. LYON.

III. Hort. Soc.: Best late summer apple we have. Always fair size, perfect shape. Always **bears full**. Splendid for both market and family. **Later**: Fine bearer. I know of **no apple** that will bring **more money**. Of finest texture and flavor. **Later, '96:** Finest summer apple, a **full crop**. **Later, Sept. 13, '97:** Jefferis as usual, the best summer apple of its season. Beautiful, good bearer, ripens all through Aug., and lots of them on the trees now. Quality, **good as the best**,—good for **all purposes**.—Pres't E. A. RIEHL.

Has proven hardy, an **excellent bearer**. Best for **both** family use and market—**brings more money** in the Chicago market than any apple of its season.—F. I. MANN, Ill. Hort. Soc.

Heaviest of bearers; have taken $4\frac{1}{2}$ bushels from a tree not over 4-inches in diameter. In flavor **equal to a good pear**. Best fall apple, **Duchess the best summer**.—J. D. PIPER, Ill. Hort. Soc.

The First R. R. in the World was opened to traffic Sept. 27, 1825—nearly three-fourths of a century ago. And this same Fall of 1825 the **first trees** grown in the Stark Nursery for **SALE**, were just 1-yr. old. During the years that have since come and gone, there have been built over 350,000 miles of R. R., 190,000 of which are in the U. S.—and these R. R.'s have carried from one end of this country to the other many millions of Stark Trees, and more millions of pounds of the fruit which has been grown on Stark Trees.

The **Highest Price** for Ben Davis was paid to S. R. Woolley, Marion Co., Ill., by a Chicago house. He rec'd \$2.50 a barrel on board cars here. This fact created some excitement among growers.—St. Louis Republic, Sept. 28, '97.

JONATHAN.—A most delicious Spitzenburg seedling. Medium, deep red; tender, juicy, rich. An excellent family apple and widely profitable for market. Last few years has sold higher than any other apple—see Chicago and other market reports. The English demand will also grow,—a carload having gone over for Queen Victoria's table. FM. NCS.

Slender in nursery, but makes a large, long-lived, productive orchard tree. Must be planted with other sorts for CROSS-POLLINATION—in fact it is ALWAYS SAFER to plant several sorts rather than large blocks of ANY ONE variety. Jonathan and all apples which do not hang well until Oct. 1, as well as summer and fall sorts, keep far better if picked **soon as seeds are brown**.

EXPECTED something pretty nice, but must confess apples you sent me far exceeded expectations. Never saw finer Jonathan anywhere, and nothing that would begin to compare with them this season, altho' have had some pretty fair stock, and Mr. Newhall now has Jonathan in cold storage, for which he was offered \$7 a bbl.; declined to take less than \$10. It's the universal opinion of dealers here that Jonathan equal to those you sent would bring from \$1 to \$2 **more than any here**. Such apples would have brought \$5 a bbl. here any time since Oct. 1, and if placed in cold storage it would hardly be safe to say—certainly a very great price. **It is impossible** to produce too great a quantity of fine fruit. There may be an occasional glut, but 9 years out of 10 there is a failure in some section of our large country, while consumption of fruit is **increasing much more rapidly** than population. We believe it safe to say that South Water street **to-day** is handling **100 carloads of fruit** where it handled **one carload ten years ago**. You are doing a great work in aiding the people to plant the right sorts of fruit for the right trade, and if they will heed your words, plant only best and most profitable kinds, they will find **practically no limit** to the amount of fruit that can be sold in this country, not to mention the **vast markets of the old world**.—Jos. SPIES, wholesale fruits, Chicago.

With **2d and 3d grades** excluded and made into cider or dried, the strictly No. 1 fruit will bring good prices, **no matter how great** the supply. The Jonathan you sent Mr. Spies would sell for \$3.50 to \$6 per bbl.—and we have sold Jonathan **much higher this year**. We think well of nearly all the kinds in your 1st choice list. Do not think much of Mo. Pippin, but notice you place its CHIEF VALUE on its **early bearing**. Would be valuable probably in semi-arid sections where it would not be liable to the LITTLE PIN HEAD SPECKS which it invariably gets in the rainy regions. Gano must be a great improvement on Ben Davis, although we ourselves have not a poor opinion of Ben Davis; it averages west, fully equal to the Baldwin, east. LATER: Black Ben Davis, Apple of Commerce, Champion, Senator, in our opinion, are valuable both for their intrinsic qualities and because it is advisable to change varieties in most sections from time to time. We believe in alternating Ben Davis with Jonathan or other fine sorts for better fertilization, etc., and the plan is good for other reasons.—F. NEWHALL & SONS, wholesale fruits, Chicago.

WE ARE with you in the thought that «there is a place for better sorts than Ben Davis—long keeping, non-perishable fruit.» We cannot get Jonathan to supply the demand for them; something to help out on quality would be a God-send. We believe the **profitable days** of Ben Davis are numbered. We say this reluctantly, for Ben Davis has been a friend, a source of revenue, in days gone by. We regret to part with old friends, but observation teaches that a decadence has set in, so far as this apple is concerned. It never was the fruit that tempted Eve; she never would have fallen through a thing so insipid. Ben Davis has served its purpose and brought as good all-round returns as any apple grown. We have made money handling it, and the stand seller has rubbed it up and **put it in bags for the unsuspecting**,—its color and stripes its only redeeming feature. Give us something with its virtues and less of its faults, and future generations, yea, our own, will call you blessed. For, verily, consumers will hail with delight a better apple. We honor your efforts to improve the varieties of apples. God speed your work.—E. P. STACY & SONS, wh. fruits, Minneapolis, Minn.

In Iowa alternating Ben Davis with Jonathan has been adopted by some of our heaviest planters, for better fertilization. . . Gen. Stone and I recently rode through many orchards and they look very promising; only a matter of a few years until our trees will be old enough to bring us a very large yield.—F. M. POWELL, Pres't Iowa Hort. Soc.

Mo. Hort. Soc.: Were I to plant a new orchard it would be **all Jonathan and Ben Davis**. Willow Twig fine, but trees short lived. Sold my crop on the trees; hope to have a full crop by 1900; have 7000 fine Stark trees, 5 to 9 yrs. old.—Pres't D. A. ROBNETT, Boone Co., Mo.

Mo. Hort. Soc.: Where Jonathan succeeds, would not plant Ben Davis at all. Jonathan is of the Spitzenburg family and one of the very best apples in the whole list. There is no use of anything else for money where it does so well as in N. W. Mo.—Sec'y L. A. GOODMAN.

In Western Colo. we didn't plant Jonathan largely, for we've only **just learned how valuable** it is and that we raise finer Jonathan than in any other state. When I came to Colo. 6 years ago to plant an orchard, visited wholesale fruit firms, asking what apple sold best, what apple to grow. Reply invariably, JONATHAN. Followed advice—and only wish I'd planted more. Every Ben Davis planter will make more money in Colo. by alternating with Jonathan. Pass a fine orchard daily where this was done—Jonathan almost equaling Ben Davis in yield and the **BEN DAVIS MORE BRILLIANT** in color than in Ben Davis orchard just across the road. Why, I can't say, but it's fact, therefore worth considering. Shall alternate in future; besides, Jonathan helps sell Ben Davis at a **better price**.—F. C. SEELEY, Mesa Co., Colo.

**STARK
STREES**

Peach and Budded Apple

Helps Sell Bens.—Advised friends not to plant orchards all one variety. With nothing but Ben Davis, the grower, when he comes to sell, finds it almost impossible to get top of the market, having no other choice kinds to sell with the Bens. Our fancy experience handling stock in cold storage is that a small quantity of fancy stock, such as Jonathan, will make Bens sell for more. Jonathan is a great favorite here; and from cold storage has already sold for \$5 a bbl.—ARMOUR Co., Kan. City, Oct. 7. JONATHAN, 5-yr. trees, averaged 5 bushels of apples, best trees 12 bu. Ben Davis, same age, averaged 4 bu., best trees $7\frac{1}{2}$ bu.—COLO. FARM & LIVESTOCK Co., Arapahoe Co., Colo.

A GROWING demand exists for better apples than Ben Davis. This fact will make itself felt more and more to growers of apples. Any nursery that can give the grower trees of finer sorts, is conferring a favor on such grower.—THOMAS & Co., wholesale fruits, Peoria, Ill.

Wise Men from the East bought up all the best orchards and prices will now be high. Jonathan scarce, Ben Davis plentier. Consumers want best showy apple they can get and the better the flavor the better the price.—A. L. CHARLES, wholesale fruits, Kan. City, Mo.

Wish very much to see such apples as Senator, etc., in our market; will gladly help you to place them before the people. Jonathan now worth \$3.50 per bbl., Ben Davis \$2.50; likely worth double these prices in spring.—R. STAFFORD Co., wholesale fruits, Milwaukee, Oct. 2.

Don't plant all Ben Davis—showy, good seller, yet buyers want something else.—B. PRESLEY & Co., wholesale fruits, St. Paul, Minn.

THERE are many better apples than Ben Davis, among them Jonathan and Winesap. For any fruit to remain long in favor it must possess beautiful appearance and both eating and cooking qualities.—ARMA-COST, RILEY & Co., wholesale fruits, Cincinnati, Ohio.

JONATHAN sells for highest prices,—appearance, flavor, quality, so superior.—C. H. WEASER & Co., wholesale fruits, Chicago.

In N. Y. market there is always good demand for western Jonathan. Two cars already sold, \$4.50 to \$5.—A. KIMBALL & Co., wh. fruits, N. Y.

O. Hort. Soc.: Time to begin to cater to the market demand for handsome table apples. Jonathan and York Impl' are most desirable. Jonathan is a poor, crooked grower in the nursery.—Prof. W. J. GREEN.

Mich. Exp. St'n: Deserves far more attention than it has rec'd thus far, in Mich., as a beautiful and excellent winter apple.—Pres't T. T. LYON.

In N. W. Ark.—My best bearer, best payer of the season is Jonathan, but must gather Sept. 1, a month ahead of Senator.—JACOB SCHLAFFL, Ark.

III. Hort. Soc.: Early, abundant bearer, far longer lived tree than Ben Davis. No finer apples are produced in the U. S. or in the world than Jonathan. Requires to be put on market early, yet on account of quality, it takes the lead. Coming to the front as a market apple.

All good qualities are hard to combine; but in the apple we have very nearly reached it in Jonathan.—JUDGE MILLER, Ed. Rural World.

Kan. Hort. Soc.: Apples like Jonathan and Rome B'y pick BEFORE FULLY RIPE, soon as well colored; keep better, have FINER FLAVOR.

Planters need educating in the difference in the growth, vigor and symmetry of varieties of trees while young, and what they are to expect when they buy trees. Everyone likes to see nice, straight, comely, well shaped trees. But all varieties will not grow in that way. It is just as natural for Ben Davis, N. W. Greening, Walbridge, to grow upright, as is the crooked, irregular growth of Duchess and Fameuse. The slender, willowy branches of Jonathan are as much a part of its natural habit as the short, stubby growth of Yel. Transp. Most people do not understand this difference in habits of growth, and do not see why the nurseryman cannot send them just as smooth, straight trees of one kind as another, and frequently accuse him of trying to work off poor, refuse stock.—A. BRYANT, Treas., Ill. Hort. Soc.

Nurserymen for years have been increasing the propagation of Ben Davis, the proportion often being 40 to 60%; it has been making money for growers, but they now realize the need of some other sorts. We do not believe planters will cease planting Ben Davis at once. It has gained too much headway for that. And while Black Ben Davis is destined in time to take the place of Ben Davis, this change takes years. Growers cling to old friends.

Grimes Golden is justly classed as an apple of highest quality, one of the few profitable yellow sorts. Originated in Va. over 100 years ago, yet to-day it is all too rare in the average orchard, and even then often fails to get full credit; for instance, recently at the Apple Hill Fruit show, in N. W. Ark., we saw three exhibits of fine Grimes Golden—all labeled «Bellflower.» One grower said he bought the trees years ago from our salesman, the best bearer and best apple in his orchard; had lost the name and supposed it must be Bellflower. And so it goes. Jonathan, in many fruit growing regions, is hardly known. Ben Davis was years and years becoming generally grown, but to-day, more than ever before, there is the feeling that we want sorts possessing all its good qualities, and more. We have every confidence that we have found the right sorts. With our co-operative orchard system of over 3000 orchards and some millions of trees, and to which we are constantly adding new orchards, planting the more valuable sorts in large quantities, rather than fewer trees each of many sorts, as is too often done, these valuable sorts will be brought to notice in a few years. The orchards do their own talking, and so will the fruit as it goes to market in car load lots, thus doing in a few years what it took Ben Davis a generation to accomplish.



Original MAMMOTH
BLACK TWIG, 3 ft.
in diam.; "was a
good sized tree in
1827"--a GENERA-
TION before Para-
gon originated.



MAMMOTH BLACK TWIG.—The reputation of this very large dark red winter apple was first made in the vicinity of its origin in Ark. The writer made a 3 weeks' trip through this section several years ago, and lately another trip—when many fine photos were secured, among them that of the original M. B. Twig tree, some 70-odd years old, of great size, still SOUND and in full bearing. FM. NCS.

This fine old tree should settle the M. B. Twig-Paragon controversy as to Tenn. origin. See Paragon—a distinct, SMALLER, but not widely differing sort. Certainly finer looking apples were never seen than are M. B. Twig at their best—sometimes almost too large; 20-oz. specimens were shown at Ark. Hort. Soc., the largest apples there. We saw many trees with good crops; on POOR SOILS bears best, apples higher colored; tardy bearer on rich black land. Still, after most carefully examining M. B. Twig in scores of orchards, trees of all ages and on various soils, we cannot escape the conviction that it is not up to the mark as a HEAVY cropper. An all-round **dependable** market apple MUST be a full cropper, a barrel filler. TARDY sorts no objection here, for even Bellflower and other shy fruiters bear heavily the 2d and 3d year; heavy bearers require thinning.—R. J. COFFEY, Delta Co., Colo.

I SHIP you a box of M. B. Twig apples picked from a tree bought of you 4 or 5 years ago. Two years ago it yielded one basket; last year two, and this year almost a barrel; tree fine.—H. H. CURTIS, Arapahoe Co., Colo. M. B. TWIG bore handsome apples, keeping sound as nuts. No blight, vigorous, hardy.—G. J. BURNETT, " HAVE 11,000 M. B. Twig in my orchard; 4-yr. trees bore HALF BUSHEL each of finest apples.—A. W. POOLE, Ark. RYAN & RICHARDSON, wholesale fruits, Leavenworth, Kan., are planting 80,000 trees of M. B. Twig—planting the Mam. Black Twig rather than Winesap, because the latter bears too full and the fruit then is too small. BEN DAVIS was planted here almost universally in the early days. Last few years attention has been attracted to Jonathan, and we now see that it is by far our best apple of the season. Have 1000 Jonathan; shall set more. Rome B'ty a great commercial success; grows here to perfection, the best all-purpose apple of its season. M. B. Twig, wherever in bearing, is a success; will take the place of Winesap.—S. G. McMULLIN, Mesa Co., Colo.

King (Tompkins Co.).—Succeeds east, but plant very few west or south unless you know it to be successful
KINNAIRD CHOICE.—An early winter apple of best quality; hardy, young and almost too prolific bearer
Subject to scab, except in the semi-arid regions. FM. NCS.

Lawyer (Del. Red Winter).—SLOW bearer; fruit scabs, falls badly. Succeeds in some parts of Colo. and Cal
Planted 500 trees of Lawyer in 1874—and they NEVER begun bearing.—Pres't J. C. EVANS, Mo. Hort. Soc.
LARGE, showy, of fair quality only. There are many better winter apples.—Rural New-Yorker.

LEGAL TENDER (Trade-Mark)—Tested more than 20 years. Larger than Ben Davis; better. A fine long
keeping apple, but cannot rank with Apple of Commerce, Black Ben Davis and Champion. FM. NCS.
OUTBEARS Ben Davis; almost as good quality as Kinnaird, and KEERS like Limbertwig.—G. A. VANDEVER, Ark



* 70,000 Stark Trees *

in one solid orchard; 2-yrs. planted.

Pecos Valley Orchard Co.

Against fraud in «new» varieties, the U. S. Dep't of Agr. is working to protect farmers and horticulturists. It is well known that most «new» varieties of fruits sold at fabulous prices are **old varieties under new names.** It is seldom a really new, meritorious variety is developed, although thousands are expended yearly for sorts with worked-over names that purport to be something new. The Div. of Pomology, Maj. G. B. Brackett, chief, has undertaken to end, so far as possible, this species of swindling, and stands ready to give full information to all inquirers. Farmers, before you buy new fruits write him, Washington, D. C., and ask about them.—Kan. Farmer.

The 1st Premium for best display of apples at the great St. Louis Fair was awarded the Stark Nursery, said Pres't Parker Earle one of the judges soon afterward, «not only for superiority of fruit, but because **every variety was correctly named.**»

Failing Old Varieties, formerly grown with success, are now little grown, because particularly subject to attacks of fungi. Many new varieties seem better adapted to soil and climate than the old kinds, many of which are of European origin. The new kinds are handsome, good, more hardy and productive.—R. D. GRAHAM, Mich.

The man mistakes who thinks he must continue to plant old, out-of-date sorts. True, there are those who think they must punch the protuberant head of every new variety. But most people know that in fruits, as in other things, science has made wonderful improvements.

«Early Neb. Horticulture,» from report **Neb. Hort. Soc.**: My first orchard was established at Arbor Lodge in 1858. In 1869 we were in the full flush of fruit. THEN the trees were at their most productive age and had given no signs of **how short-lived the root-grafted orchards** of Neb. were to be. And though nurserymen vehemently declare the contrary, I am confident that top-grafted trees live longer and bear better than root-grafted. Tap roots are indispensable for long life to orchard trees in Neb., for in no other soil must roots deploy so deeply for moisture. Neb. will be, as now, a large exporter of orchard products, as long as enlightened horticulture shall direct the farmer how, and WHEN, and WHAT to plant.—Ex Sec'y Agr. MORTON.

LATER. See. Morton wrote us «For 1000 full rooted, NOT PIECE-ROOT grafted apple trees. LATER: Ship at once. Please give me A1 trees. Willing to pay extra if necessary in order to get good ones.

Combine your forces on one point,» said the great Napoleon. We combine all the skill we have upon the production of Stark Trees. They are cheap only in price. Better quality is impossible.

The Last Six Years our plants have aggregated over twenty million fruit trees. Many millions have been sent forth from Rockport, Ill. This great plant was among the most successful ever made, altho' it was predicted that half the trees would never be sold,—yet all were disposed of advantageously. The growth of the Stark Nursery was **never more rapid** than during the last few years.

Don't judge our BUDDED 1-yr. apple by average grafted 1-yr. Budded apple trees not only mature earlier and better, but even our 3rd size budded 1-yr. are as large as ordinary grafted 1-yr. And, having 3-yr. whole roots, NOT a 1-yr. «slip of root,» are far **stronger rooted**, have more vitality, POWER, STRENGTH, and «bearing age counts,» NEARER, by 1, if not 2 years. [See pg. 8.]

The most astonishing returns are from S. W. Mo., where 20 counties have a total fruit acreage of 148,565, the greater part apples, peaches, the rest berries. The production of «small fruits» this year, '97, is enormous. Jasper Co. alone marketed 300 carloads of strawberries, value \$210,000. Barton Co. has 1400 acres blackberries. Mo. strawberries have been sent this year to markets that never knew them before. The importance of this wonderful development of the fruit production of the state cannot easily be overestimated.—Mo. Labor Com'r.

Lord Wolseley.—This, Takapuna and Traveler were sent us from New Zealand, as their finest apples there. LARGE, very late keeper; very hardy; one of the best for general cultivation and home use.—D. HAY & SON, N. Z.

Loy.—Tree lacks vigor and hardness. Of 100 trees set in Stark Denver orchards all are dead or dying. LOY apples ALL ROTTED ON the tree.—A. H. GRIESA, Experiment Orchard, Douglas Co., Kan.

MAIDEN BLUSH.—Widely known as a profitable all-round apple. Tree quite hardy after it attains age, vigorous, prolific, young bearer, long lived. Held in high repute as a market apple, and much admired by dealers,—but also plant Jefferis for family use and FANCY market. M. Blush is medium size, pale lemon-yellow, with a crimson cheek; flesh white, tender, sprightly, brisk sub-acid; deficient in richness. KM. CS. LATE meeting **Mo. Hort. Soc.:** Pres't Murray said Mo. Ben Davis were selling in **Hamburg, Germany**, in Oct., '97, for **\$6 a barrel**, and they had taken as many at that date as they bought all of last year. The limited area of good fruit producing regions, the opening of foreign markets, with an ever increasing demand at home and abroad, does not indicate much danger of overproduction. More and more it is necessary to **keep up with the advance** in fruit growing. Ten years ago planted Ben Davis, Bellflower, York Imp'l, Jonathan, M. Blush, E'y Harvest, Willow Twig and **many others.** Sold crop from 200 Ben Davis for \$150 this year; other trees were just as full at first; some fell, some rotted; Willow Twig blighted; York Imp'l is fine, good bearer. It's as easy to raise apples as corn. The money is in winter apples. Then A. Nelson spoke from 15 years' experience in Mo.; said the man who will plant M. Blush in quantities to enable him to **load in car lots will make the most money.** Not enough attention is paid to choice varieties. W. R. Wilkerson, S. E Mo., said for market would plant 9 rows Ben Davis and 1 row of some other variety for fertilizer. Don't plant too deep. Cultivate until June, then sow cow peas. Whippoorwill is best variety, and turn in hogs to eat them down. Soja beans find even more prolific than cow peas; mature in 100 days, as will cow peas. Raise hogs and chickens in my orchard, trap rabbits; also pasture 200 sheep in my orchard. In marketing pack very tight; slack packing will not do.

McAfee (Nonesuch, Mo. Superior, Lg. Striped Pearmain, Stephenson Pip., Gov. Berry,—a new name every year or so!).—Often fair and fine on young trees, but soon ruined by scab. Keeps badly. Dec.-Jan. F. S.

McIntosh Red.—Resembles Fameuse, fine quality; subject to scab, tender in fruit bud. Fall. F. N.

Minkler.—Medium, greenish yellow, stripes dull red; 2d quality. Jan. to Apr. M. NC.

III. Exp. Stn: Very shy bearer here.—Prof. BURRILL. **Mich. Exp. Stn:** Vigorous, quality low, spreading.—T. T. LYON.



Mo. PIPPIN.—«At the head for QUICK money.» Good grower, young and immense bearer—**youngest bearer** of all, Champion and Bismarck not excepted; has often borne at ONE-YEAR in our nursery rows—something no other apple has ever done. One of the best payers to plant as a filler between longer-lived sorts. Medium to large, rich red, with darker red stripes; very handsome, fair quality. Should be among the first to be planted on any farm where there are no apples. Exceedingly profitable while young, but as it attains age, overbears, so that the fruit is small and subject to pin-head specks. M. NCS.

Mo. Hort. Soc.: Mo. Pippin trees, set one year ago, have all the way from 3 and 4 to 15 and 20 apples each on them. WE HAVE handled Mo. Pippin a long while—a handsome apple and well liked; trees break down when heavily loaded and unless cultivated fruit gets too small.—J. W. CHASE & SON, wholesale fruits, St. Joseph, Mo.

Mo. Hort. Soc.: Of apples for commercial orchards, Mr. Bell strongly favored Grimes Golden, Jonathan, Winesap, Ben Davis, Gano. Pres' Murray used Grimes Golden, Jonathan, Mo. Pippin, Winesap, Ben Davis; cited apple trees that had netted him, for each tree, \$42.50 in 21 years, and another 13-yr. orchard, \$25.50 for each tree. Thought this pretty good pay for rent of cheap lands; no one can err if he will buy cheap lands and plant to apple orchards. Knows hundreds who have made it profitable indeed.

Kan. Hort. Soc.: Most profitable sort; York Imp'l second, then Ben Davis. Some counties put York Imp'l at the head.

Kan. Hort. Soc., 1897: After much discussion Ben Davis was retained at the head of the list with Mo. Pippin 2d, and Jonathan, York Imp'l, Gano, each competing for 3d place. Ingram, a new apple, had its champions.

Colo. Hort. Soc.: Will pay more during first 10 years after planting than any other. . . . Beats them all. The most profitable winter apple in Colo. . . . Greatest fault is its tendency to overbear; begins at 2-ys., and unless thinned, will bear itself to death in 10 or 12 years.

For EARLY money Mo. Pippin beats any apple yet discovered. Bore in Colo. at 2-ys. from the graft, in nursery row; 3-yr. orchard trees can be relied upon to bring from 1 to 3 bushels of full sized fruit to a tree. Solid, juicy, fine grained, has a tough skin, will stand rough handling, thus making it a good keeper and shipper. Its appearance sells it by the side of the average apple. Its general good qualities makes a demand for it; being planted in So. Colo. extensively in close rows as temporary fillers among permanent trees.—Denver Field & Farm.

ONE of my neighbors had me send to you for trees 3 or 4 years ago; lost 2 out of 100 and kicked up a big fuss, but now he is gathering Mo. Pippin apples, a barrel per tree; enormous crop.—JOHN GRAVESTOCK, Fremont Co., Colo.

A Cash Producer, fruit was NOT in early days. As years have passed the country has become populous, R. R.'s have been built, and the fruit situation has totally changed. Good apples and peaches are decidedly **a cash article.** Mo. apples are wanted east and west, and in Europe. Our peaches, last summer, supplied the Boston markets, and our apples can be found to-day on the stalls of London. Decidedly, farmers should give immediate attention to orchards. The **demand for fine fruit** is unlimited. Inferior fruit sells poorly,—but that isn't the sort to raise. **No one in recent years** has seen 1st-class fruit, within reach of market, in slow demand. **No boundary** can be set to its consumption. Every year finds it more a staple article, from smallest neighborhood to largest marts of the world. Last season the butchers of St. Louis noticed that the big fruit crop **cut down the sale of meats.** Consumers preferred the fruit to a heavier diet. One **protection against a glut** is modern scientific methods of drying and canning. Fruit growing is a **most promising business.**—Globe-Democrat, St. Louis.

Newtown or Albemarle Pippin.—Has been grown in the Stark nursery and orchards since early in the century; valued for home use. Plant for MARKET only in Va., N. Car., and in Pacific states. (Last few years York Imp'l has sold for an extra price in England—fancied as a RED Newtown Pippin.) Quality best—if grown on dry, rich limestone soils under high culture. Slow grower, light bearer. We now propagate from stock selected some years ago from the best-fruited Albemarles of Va. See York Imp'l. F. C.

III. Hort. Soc.: Planted 17 trees 17 years ago, from which have picked about 17 pecks of apples.—J. M. PEARSON.

N. C. Exp. Stn.: Grown successfully only in very favored locations, with most careful attention.

ALBEMARLES from Covington this year brought \$10 per bbl. in Liverpool; usually brings from \$7 to \$9; \$1.15 covers all costs, packing, marketing. Our red apples are just as good. One grower declined \$15,000 for apples on 1000 trees; another got \$1000 for crop of 125 young trees. An orchard here pays enormous profits.—S. B. WOODS, Va.

Dep't Agr.: The exceedingly good price has aroused great interest in Albemarle Pippin. It's a great mistake to think it will grow in any and all soils and climates; go slowly. My own experience in Iowa in 1850 proved it a failure there—as in many other places. An apple fast coming to the front is York Imp'l, especially in Ill. and Ia.; fine for market, coming up very nearly to Albemarle as an export apple.—U. S. Pomologist BRACKETT.

NONPAREIL (No Equal, Ohio N., Myers N., etc.)—This apple of almost absolute goodness has been singularly overlooked. Where tried has proven the finest apple and best seller of the season. Sept. FM. NCS.

MY BEST and **greatest seller** among scores and scores of its season. Upright, vigorous, very productive, fruit grows close to limbs, very large, finely striped with red, quality **extra good.**—S. T. COLE, Washington Co., Ark.

Am. Pomology, Warden.—This fine fruit originated in Ohio. The Hort. Review, Feb. 1853, says: «Tree vigorous, healthy, limbs straight, stout, not liable to break with weight of fruit. Original tree has borne **annual crops for 20 years.**» Very large, very handsome, yellow with bright red; tender, fine grained, juicy, rich. **First quality** for table, market, cooking or drying. Compared with some of the best dessert apples of the season, such as Fall Pippin, Fall Wine, Rambo and others, this variety was declared to be **better than the best.**

NORTHERN SPY.—Of best quality, and profitable WHERE IT SUCCEEDS—east, N. E., in Colo. and westward; less valuable further south. Requires good soil; blooms late, productive, but tardy bearer,—life is too short to plant Spy when we have so many fine apples that are also young bearers. FAMILY. NC.

Ill. Hort. Soc.: Comes into bearing too late to be recommended for Central Ill.—See' H. M. DUNLAP.

Paragon.—Tenn. seedling of Winesap, distinct from M. B. Twig; smaller, hardly so good, but desirable. ORIGINATED here; old tree still standing. Bore this year, 1895. I named and introduced it about 8 years ago.

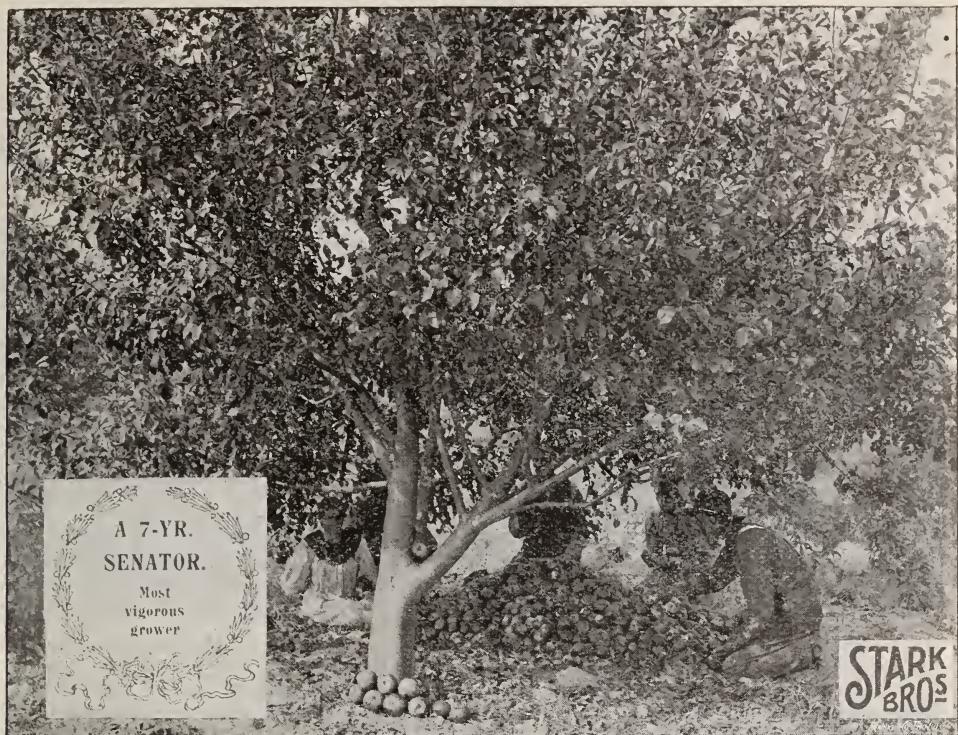
Much like, but I believe inferior to its twin brother, Golbert.—Dr. W. L. MOORES, Lincoln Co., Tenn., 1895.

Peter (Gideon Best).—Resembles Wealthy, slower to bear and much less vigorous in Stark Denver orchards.

Ill. Hort. Soc.: The Peter is said to be a seedling of Wealthy, but see no advantage in it as **Wealthy is superior.**

Pewaukee.—Large, dull red stripes; sub-acid, coarse. Tree vigorous, hardy, but casts its fruit. Fall.

Am. Pom. Soc.: Tried and discarded in Wis.—where it originated.



PRIZETAKER (Trade-Mark).—Took 1st premium for **BEST NEW APPLE** at Ark. Hort. Soc. Medium to large; very deep, rich red color, with thick bloom; of first quality; long keeper. Exceedingly fine, STRONG grower; young, heavy, regular bearer. In time we believe will become a most popular sort. FM. NCS. ONE of the finest apples in the state.—Prof. J. T. STINSON, Ark. Exp. St'n.

RAMBO.—Old and widely known. Not hardy but does best on light or sandy soils. Fall. F. C. III. Exp. St'n: Very good quality; trees short lived. III. Hort. Soc.: Not hardy; trees die young; ought not recommend.

RED ASTRACHAN.—Not a young bearer, but more or less successful from Maine to Cal. M. NCS. III. Exp. St'n: Not only a shy bearer, but the fruit was usually more or less imperfect.—Prof. T. J. BURRILL.

Red Bietigheimer.—A large, beautiful, EARLY fall apple; often drops before maturity; slow bearer, blights.

RED HARVEST (Stribling).—«FAVORITE» early apple. Good grower, a **young, annual, abundant** bearer.

Large size and **FINE COLOR**—striped and splashed, light and dark rich red. Market reports for years, show that **EARLY** apples have averaged highest in price, winter next, and fall apples lowest. FM. NCS. A **FAVORITE** where well known. **LARGE**, dark red; quality the **BEST**; fine bearer. Both this and Summer King are **VERY FINE** here.—F. N. DOWNER, Warren Co., Ky.

LARGE, dark and light red, tender and juicy, abundant bearer. Our **favorite of all** the early apples.—DOWNER & BRO., Todd Co., Ky., 1883. LATER: Begins to ripen **before** E'y Harvest and Red June are gone. LATER, 1896: Summer King is a good apple, the most successful of its season, but Stribling is our favorite **EARLY** summer sort.

RED JUNE (Car. R. J.).—Really a 2d choice sort because so prone to scab, and Red Harvest so much finer.

III. Exp. St'n: Red June bears fairly well, but is too small and apt to be scabby. [See under Benoni, pg. 9.]

ROME BEAUTY.—Large, mostly bright red; tender, juicy, good. Its large size and beautiful appearance render it popular. A LATE bloomer. Of notable value in Colo., N. Mex., and all the Rocky Mt. region.

THE LATE WM. STARK, before Mo. Hort. Soc., 1867: I have cultivated Rome B'ty 14 years—since 1853. A good late fall and early winter apple; will keep till March, but loses flavor. Trees incline to overbear; our crop, grown on strong land, well cultivated, this year sold for \$4.25. The buyer afterwards told me he was offered \$7 at Louisville, provided they were as good all through as on the tops of barrels—purchaser selected and emptied out 2 of 200 bbls., shipped to Nashville and sold at \$9 per bbl. FM. CS. Colo. Hort. Soc.: Reliable here as Ben Davis, and next to it for profit, of sorts tested here.—Pres't W. B. FELTON. Fremont Co., Colo. [See under Duchess, pg. 16.]

III. Hort. Soc.: On our bottom land soil has brought us more money than any other.—E. A. RIEHL. Ohio Hort. Soc.: Our most profitable apple, doing its best on white-oak land—clay soils of moderate fertility.

BEST APPLE yet rec'd from Cal.; quickly taken and retailed at once for 60¢ to \$1 per doz.—Fruit Trade Jour., N.Y. N. Y. Exp. St'n: Productive, bears young, cooks evenly, quickly; of fine flavor and quality.—Prof. S. A. BEACH. Ark. Hort. Soc.: Does extra well and bears regular crops—unless very late frost kills them.—GARRETT WILLIAMS. N. C. Exp. St'n: Of great value here. Slow grower but very productive and one of the **very latest bloomers**.

Seek No Further.—A few trees grown here for 30 odd years; fair grower, healthy, good bearer. F. NC. III. Exp. St'n: Very good quality; liable to fall too early, does not keep—it's greatest fault.—Prof. T. J. BURRILL.

No one thing tends so much toward spreading San Jose scale and other pests as the feeling of some that they must get all they can for their money—must have cheap trees, regardless of quality.—Horticulturist.

Apples or Corn?—There is no excuse for not growing fruit, for it does not take a lifetime to get an orchard to bearing age,—as we often hear. But where will the **profits come in**, growing fruit at usual prices? Here are some facts: Season of 1894 the apple crop of 8 acres near Brunswick, Mo., sold for \$1,000 (for the No. 1), **on the trees**; in '95, for \$950; in '96, for \$1,050. The same man **sold corn** in the field at gathering time in '94 for \$9 per acre; in '95 his corn crop brought him \$8.50 per acre. This is but one case of many.—Western Fruit Grower.



Row of 7-yr. SENATOR in
orchard of D. Branscombe

SENATOR (Oliver Red, etc.)—It is only now and again there comes a new apple of such superlative merits as to delight at once trained pomologists and «plain people» also. But this rare combination is given to the world in SENATOR, the most admired and best liked apple shown at the World's Fair. For rare beauty and **singularly fine quality**, the choice of everyone. Generations to come cannot choose but bless the unknown friend of man who first raised it—what pleasure he conferred on his fellows! FM. NCS.

So fine that, had it earlier been disseminated and put forward instead of Shannon as their «**great show apple**,» the high reputation of N. W. Ark. apples would be «300% greater.» But, unfortunately, Senator was unknown outside of a few neighborhoods until the World's Fair—where it so profoundly impressed, among others, the Supt. of Pomology, Chas. Wright, that in writing us, he praised it as «**the finest apple on exhibition.**» We, too, fell in love with it, as does everyone who sees it—and especially those who **TASTE** it. In tracing back, we found it had at least four local names, Oliver Red being the one best known, and originated in N. W. Ark. at an early day, and was first grafted **50-odd years ago.** One of the grafted trees is still bearing in the orchard of Wm. Vandever (now aged 81), who told us that when he himself was grafting from it more than 20 years ago «it was THEN a large tree 2-ft. in diameter.»

If we may judge by its size, coloring and **exquisite quality**—we know nothing of the tree—it is well worthy the attention of **all apple growers.** Flesh yellowish white, stained with pink. Core **small.** It is of **high quality**, an agreeable blending of acid and sweet, with an **intense apple flavor**; juicy, sprightly. Red on a greenish yellow ground—the red is in some specimens lighter than others. The large «dots» with which the surface is sprinkled, are a distinguishing characteristic.—Rural New-Yorker, Dec. 21, '95.

At **World's Fair** the Senator attracted much attention from Brackett, Harris and many other pomologists. G. B. BRACKETT [now U. S. POMOLOGIST], went **wild** over it. At first it seemed a **highly colored Willowtwig**; but after testing he said, «No Willowtwig was ever half so good.» Later he added, «I value it more highly than any other **apple here.**» He has been long connected with the U. S. Pomological dep't and **there is no better judge.**

LATER: At Atlanta again attracted all pomologists; awarded **Gold Medal** as new seedling of best quality. Flavor best; brings **top of the market.** LATER: Keeping now, Mar. 6, equal to Ben Davis; and more delighted than ever with it. Champion also attracted **much attention** at Atlanta Exposition.—Ark. Com'r Agriculture. Just right in size and color; so **strikingly marked**, attracts buyers, easily remembered.—Prof. EARLE, U. S. Div. Pom. A very heavy apple and of **remarkable beauty**, received from Stark Bro's. We have **had a cut made from an average specimen**, and append report of Prof. Heiges, U. S. Pomologist. This report accords with our own examination.—Prof. THOS. MEEHAN, Ed. Meehan's Monthly.

Dept of Agr. Specimens rec'd from three sources, all being similar in color and markings. Large, smooth, glossy; color **nearly a solid red** with prominent dots; flesh yellowish white, tinged red, **very tender**, juicy; core small, flavor sub-acid, rich; quality good to **VERY GOOD.** Handsome market variety.—U. S. Pomologist HEIGES. ALL OZARK sorts **free of blight** in Colo., but every sort with Russian blood blights.—T. W. PAGE, Littleton, Colo. **Coming Market Apples.**—Your remarks under this head are along the right line. **No blight** on the Ark. apples here, while Russian and some northern sorts have been almost exterminated by it.—M. J. GRAHAM, Dallas Co., Ia. **Ark. Hort. Soc.**: One of the finest apples shown at the World's Fair, but we were ruled out on it because not named; was marked simply «No. 7.» Known here and propagated under different local names, Oliver Red, etc.; neither is the proper name. It is one of the **finest apples in N. W. Ark.** We lose the credit entirely for the simple reason that it is not catalogued.—I. W. RADER, Ark.

ORIGINATED near Fly Creek, Ark. Was first grafted by my uncle, Earles Holt, **in the early 40's.**—G. W. COLLINS, Ark. HAVE 120 trees—makes us more money than Ben Davis. Champion also a fine payer.—J. W. MILLER & SON, Ark. BEARS **every year**, outbears Ben Davis; 16-yr. tree yielded 24½ bu. No. 1 apples [see photo]: limbs bend to the ground, but don't break. **Best apple** planted; has made us **more money** than any other.—RUDOLPH & SONS, Ark. HAVE 100 trees in my orchard; they bore at 4 years, bear better than Ben Davis. Champion is even more profitable, as it hangs far later than Ben Davis, bears better, pays better.—D. BRANSCOMBE, Ark.

THINK more of Senator than ever. One of the finest apples: attractive color, most excellent quality: at the Apple Hill Fruit Show, four apples shown weighed **3 pounds, 1 ounce.**—J. SCHLAFFL, Ark.

Senator rec'd. They are of **BEAUTIFUL COLOR** and **HIGHLY FLAVORED.**—STILLWELL Co., cold storage, Hannibal, Mo. A STEP FORWARD will be any variety or combination of varieties with the style and keeping character of Ben Davis and better quality.—H. P. STANLEY Co., wholesale fruits, Chicago, Ill. You are doing good work in inducing fruit growers to plant better varieties. We seldom have fancy Jonathan enough and greatly feel the need of **good apples** to follow Jonathan.—HALEY & Co., wh. fruits, Sioux City, Ia.

To Give **70 Millions** even one apple **a week** means that many of us in FRUIT GROWING REGIONS must devote ourselves to growing fruit, or then untold millions must go without even a Sunday morning apple.



Our Apples Abroad.—If you want to make an Englishman your friend for life, just send him a barrel of choice apples. Our apples are appreciated abroad and the European markets promise a rich field for our apple growers. I had occasion to repay a few courtesies and did so by giving a dinner. In the course of conversation the subject of American fruit, and apples in particular, was mentioned. At once my guests became most enthusiastic, and that led me to send over here for some. They arrived before I left for home. . . . I never rec'd more hearty and sincere thanks for any present I ever made. Of course, our apples are exceedingly toothsome, but it was almost impossible for me to comprehend the delight they afforded my English friends.—Homestead.

\$20,000 in 10 yrs.—Have rec'd from my 20-acre apple orchard in 10 years, \$20,000; my 2-yr., 5-acre pear and plum orchard has made splendid growth—all Stark trees. Am within 30 miles of Ia. line.—J. H. HILLIS, Gentry Co., Mo.

Ill. Hort. Soc.: An apple dealer offered for the crop of a Ben Davis orchard 12 to 15 years old: He would take the land at its worth before trees were set, pay cost of trees, figure up all expense that had ever been put on the orchard, and then figure the total at 6% up to date, and would give that for the one crop—which was refused. The apples afterwards realized clear of all expenses, \$10 per tree. As you know, I used to farm, and marketed sheep, cattle, hogs and other stock by earloads annually. Had a large farm and thought there was no money in anything else. One day a Chicago fruit man came along, buying fruit, and asked me why I did not take better care of my orchard, saying, «it will bring in better results than any other part of your farm.» The orchard contained only 300 trees, but I went to work and next year results were so fine it surprises most people when I give them the exact figures—\$3,542 clear money. Trees mostly Ben Davis.—C. G. WINN, Pike Co., Ill.

Colo. Hort. Soc.: My apple crop, 1889, trees planted 1881, amounted to \$4,361, from 5½ acres. LATER: A most important thing is to keep records. My experience in apples for 4 years, is as follows: About 400 Ben Davis in my orchard, have averaged me about \$23 to the tree; some varieties that look just as well, haven't yielded 50¢ a tree. Walbridge, \$14 to the tree. E'y Harvest, \$2. Red Astrachan has not yielded 50¢ a tree. LATER: Five acres of my winter apples sold for \$5,777.59—\$1,155.51 per acre.—Pres't W. B. FELTON, Fremont Co., Colo.

Over \$1500 an Acre.—We bought the 1st-class apples off a 10-acre Ben Davis orchard in southern Ill., near Centralia, part of the trees planted 5 years, part 7 years and part 10 years, 2 acres not yet in bearing, which yielded 5,310 barrels of 1st choice fruit, for which we paid \$2.25 per barrel, \$11,947.50; besides the orchard yielded a large quantity of 2d choice and some for cider.—BAKER & MCFARLAND, wholesale fruits, Chicago.

Shackleford.—Is being favorably reported in many sections, particularly in the Rocky Mt. regions. Doing well in Stark Denver orchards, and outsells Ben Davis. Inclined to blight, however; also rejected because we have better apples. We believe the people are quick to appreciate inside facts, regardless of usage. In the matter of Idaho pear blighting, we promptly made the fact known when we were convinced we were right, despite the fact we had tens of thousands in our nurseries. We preferred to sacrifice our trees rather than sell, knowing the pear unworthy. In this connection we quote a Pa. customer: BURBANK plums, set 1-yr., full of fruit. All trees doing fine except Idaho—and, by the way, yours is the only firm in the nursery business brave enough to tell the truth about this worthless tree.—S. COLELESSER, Blair Co., Pa. SEND 300 more best Shackleford; continues to hold its own in your orchards here.—SAM'L R. BROWN, Colo., 1897.

SHANNON IMPROVED.—Large fine yellow apple—color, size, shape, flavor and quality much like the old Shannon, but later, keeps better, tree harder, bears better and younger, and bears on thin soil. FM. CS. HAS NEVER failed in 20 years. Bears young and full every year. A good keeper.—W. VANDEVER, Ark.

Smith Cider.—Very worst blighter. Quality fair, about like Mo. Pippin; not nearly equal otherwise.

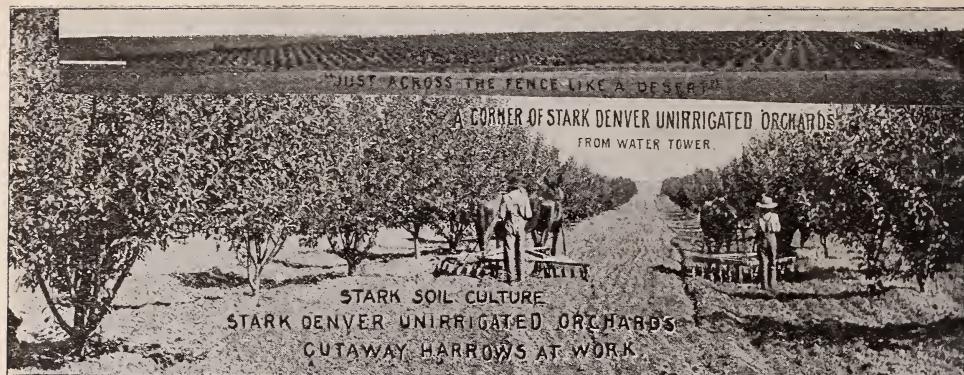
III. Lxp. St'n: Six trees were planted in 1869. All were dead in 1886. Bore four fair crops. Early winter.

Smokehouse.—Bears well, but soon ruined by dry rot. Vandiver Improved, of the same family, is better.

Pa. Hort. Soc.: Smokehouse is not giving the satisfaction of former years.—H. M. ENGLE.

There never was a time when there was greater activity in intelligent inquiry from tree planters. The old way of doing business has run its course. This is an era of information. The more the public receives, the more it wants. Nurserymen have not been slow to adopt modern means to meet the demands of planters. Present day catalogues contain photo-engravings giving actual representations. Glittering impossibilities will do very well as stories of the past. But sound business methods, which have proved a success with the most substantial firms, are the only safe methods. The public is learning to discriminate. There is much more in an earnest exposition of a fine variety than in elaborate promises which it is known cannot be fulfilled.—Nat'l Nurseryman.

Mix Sorts of Apples.—Influence of the pollen is very great. Plant a grain of corn by itself; the ears are imperfectly filled. Mixing varieties is much better than to plant a single sort by itself; thus 2 or 4 rows of Ben Davis, the same of Jonathan, a row or so of another kind, and then the same again.—Prof. J. A. DURKES, Platte Co., Mo.



SPRINGDALE.—We get good reports on this new sort; has not yet had the long testing in actual market orchards given Champion, Apple of Commerce, Senator, and others, but the old tree continues to do well, the young orchards just beginning to bear. Has the fault of growing LATE into fall. FM. NCS. HAS fruited here; bids fair to sustain the claims made for it. Large, red, good quality, keeps well.—J. W. KERR.

Ark. Hort. Soc.: Possesses extraordinary bearing and keeping qualities and deserves recognition.

SAW many of your new varieties at the World's Fair. Springdale was very fine indeed.—J. S. BREECE, N. C.

SPRINGDALE is the first to bear, bearing the 3d year, and doing well.—E. B. CRAWFORD, Franklin Co., Mo.

In New Zealand, no apple is of any value unless proof against woolly aphids. Springdale is fully proof, therefore a great acquisition. Only some 30, of 2000 varieties tried here, are proof.—L. HANLON, New Zealand.

SPRINGDALE rec'd of you 2 years ago have made phenomenal growth; vigor certainly great. Stood our cold winter, 28° below, without the slightest injury.—FELKER, L. TEMPLE, Boston, Mass.

In Idaho, Wash., and Ore., there was a loss of about a million fruit trees by a sudden cold snap, 15° below zero, Nov. '96. There were peculiar things you should know, so you can send us in future sorts unhort by this extreme change. Some tender plum, peach, pear and apple were not injured, while iron clad apples were killed. Ozark sorts unhort, except Springdale,—likely because it grows so late and our season is short. Why should one kind kill, another not?—Anyhow, send us the kinds that don't kill. Over 100 sweet cherry, Napoleon, etc., 8-yr. trees, all killed. Last year you sent Mont. O., Suda and German Ostheimer; they are all right, bearing this year. Alex. peach unhurt close to Newtown Pippin, killed. No more Baldwin or Springdale for us, but Red June plum is «away up.» All you claim for it, and GREAT DEAL MORE. All Japs here, 7 kinds, lose their fruit before ripening except Red June—every tree LOADED THIS YEAR. Fruit hangs on until ripe. Will plant it largely every season—best tree, best all round plum. Burbank good grower, harder than Abundance; neither bears this year, while Red June is full. Gold plum made 3 ft. growth last yr., but unhurt; doing fine this yr. Stark Green Gage good grower, good bearer, good fruit, very hardy. Clyman good grower, good bearer, good fruit. Cee Gol. Drop very heavy loads of fine fruit. Full crop on all pears, 12 sorts, but no PEACHES. APPLE (all 4- to 8-yr. trees), not hurt: Ben Davis, Duchess, Grimes Golden, Kinnaid, M. B. Twig, Red Astrachan, W. W. Pearmain, Winesap, Wolf River, Coffelt, Shackleford and all crab. Injured: Babbitt, 1 in 11; E'y Colton, 1 in 11; Geneton Imp'd, 4 in 11; York Imp'l, 3 in 11; Gideon, 75 in 100; Lady Sweet; Mann, 40 in 100; Newtown Pippin, 50 in 100; Wagener. Killed: Baldwin, 145 in 150; Springdale, 9 in 11; Walbridge, 25, all killed.

Stark.—From Stark Co., O. Large, coarse-grained, mild, good,—but lacks color, and is not a good keeper.

Starr.—Bears very young, and annually, having no off years. Large, greenish; sub-acid. July-Sept. FM. C. «Atrociously bad in color,» says J. W. Kerr, Md. See under Summer King.

STAYMAN WINESAP.—In originating this apple the venerable Dr. Stayman, has builded him a monument more lasting than brass. And rather than set over against his, any words of our own, we quote his own letters. He wrote, THIRTEEN years ago: A seedling of Winesap, [LARGER, MORE productive, better EVERY way; BEST APPLE I know. LATER, 1895: It is strange an apple of so great value should not be in any nursery, nor propagated. It is LARGER than Winesap, BETTER in quality, MORE productive, equally hardy, a STRONGER grower. LATER: I raised it [in N. E. Kan.] about 30 years ago; has been in BEARING 20 YEARS AND MORE. Wanted to test it fully and am now satisfied there is NO SUCH VALUABLE APPLE IN CULTIVATION. Has NEVER FAILED bearing a heavy crop. Is WORTH MORE than the whole known race of winter apples. Will sell in any market here, east, or in Europe, for more than any other on account of QUALITY ALONE. It will be the COMING apple, and there will come a time when all will want it and it will be set out almost exclusively... No one has it but you in Mo., or Kan., or west, and but few east; and there they have a SPURIOUS STAYMAN, introduced from Pa., about 1859—before my Winesap was in existence. You can make more out of Stayman Winesap than ALL THE STOCK YOU HAVE, by pushing it before the rush begins for the trees. Have no trees or scions for sale.

LATER: That there are TWO APPLES by the name of Stayman there is no doubt. One is my Stayman Winesap, the other I know nothing more about. A change from Stayman Winesap to Stayman was made without my consent. When I complained, I rec'd letters from U. S. Pomologists Heiges and Van Deman,—and finally consented to the change. Prof. Van Deman wrote: «As to the change in name, am pleased to have you express your willingness, for I am sure this apple will eventually supersede the old Winesap. To produce this one variety is worth almost a lifetime,—and that is not all you have done.»

The genuine, in appearance of tree, resembles Winesap but much stronger grower. Foliage large, heavy, held late. Better and more regular bearer than Winesap, a larger apple. HANGS LONG—till Nov.; will keep as well as Winesap, much better in quality—will simply throw all trash out of the market. Would not hesitate setting out by the thousands,—sure to make more than with any other sort. Some are going to miss a good thing in this apple.—Dr. J. STAYMAN, Nov. 22, '97.

About 20 years ago, I first knew Stayman Winesap; it is decidedly larger, as highly colored as Winesap, and better in tree; both color and quality are all right, flavor very fine. You need not be afraid to push it. Use only — and — stock, for it is true have been to both places and seen trees and fruit.—Prof. H. E. VAN DEMAN.

Supt of Pomology, World's Fair, CHAS. WRIGHT: The acme of perfection. One-half LARGER than the old Winesap; conical, light yellow with heavy shading of red all over; a beauty. Mild flavor, of best quality; keeps till April or May. A strong grower, heavy bearer. No one will regret planting it.

Peninsula Hort. Soc., 1893: In winter apples I do not believe there is any other variety as profitable as Stayman Winesap; will adapt itself to almost any soil or climate.—J. W. KERR, the great Maryland orchardist.

Stark 6-yr. Trees
Stark Soil Culture
Stark Denver Orchards

Corner of Stark three 10's;
fourth 40, wild land

LATER, 1894: **Finest winter variety** for this section. Large, bright red, **unsurpassed** in quality, **sure and heavy** bearer. LATER, 1895: Large, bright red, **EXCELLENT** quality. Strong grower, **HEAVY** bearer. The old Winesap, so well and favorably known as a profitable winter apple, **does not compare** with this, in size, flavor, or keeping qualities. For this section, **there is no better winter apple in existence.** LATER: FRUITED for 5 years. Find it «fully up» in size and prolificacy with Paragon, **brighter** in color; **has no rival** in quality.

LATER, '96. In all requisites for a first-class apple, **has no superior.** Like its parent, the old Winesap, it succeeds on a great variety of soils, but it greatly excels its parent. Large, stripes of two shades of lively red; quality best. Tree resembles Winesap, but more vigorous; yields **larger crops.** Called by some «Stayman,»—an unpardonable error, as there are at least four other kinds with Stayman as a prefix, and this is by far **too good and valuable** to be confounded with anything else. The purchaser, too, may find, after years of patient watching, that he has an entirely different and inferior apple when he buys simply Stayman. **Get the genuine,** and you have one of the **finest apples in existence.** LATER, '97: Colors finely striped with two shades of red, giving it **more brilliancy** than Paragon. Have fruited Stayman Sw't, Stayman No. 1 and No. 2; all good apples, but **NONE** compare with Stayman Winesap. . . Sold all my crop of it to a fancy mince-meat and English plum-pudding m'fr. In the Pom. Div., they have a figure of «Stayman SWEET Winesap,» from Ill. . . The genuine is the **finest (all-round) apple** I know, and am very anxious that you should fruit it.

LATER: Seedling from the old Winesap, but **superior to its parent** in size, color, FLAVOR, KEEPING. . . After some years fruiting, have no hesitancy in saying, this is **the finest all-round winter apple.**

The Stayman apple sent out from Cumberland Co., Pa., HAS NO RELATION to Stayman Winesap. Then, there is Stayman crab, Stayman McAfee, Stayman No. 1, Stayman No. 2, Stayman Sw't, etc. B. Buckman, of Ill., however, sent to U. S. Pomologist a **SWEET** apple under name of «Stayman Winesap,» hence more confusion. The genuine is not quite so dark in color as the old Winesap, which here is dark dull red, while Stayman Winesap is striped and **brighter red.**—J. W. KERR, Dec. 1, '97.

Few Apples, old or new, equal this in all that goes to make a 1st-class winter apple; vigorous growth, productivity, good size, fine quality. Has been in bearing here for years. In the production of this **most excellent** fruit Dr. Stayman has placed us all under lasting obligations.—Hort. Ed., Nat'l Stockman & Farmer.

DOWNTON says: Tree very vigorous, spreading; wood very dark; dark, heavy foliage; a young and very abundant bearer; fruit **hangs well.** Firm, tender, juicy, rich, mild sub-acid, aromatic; **quality best.** Jan. to May.

STRAWBERRY (Chenango S., Sherwood Fav.; Sum. Queen, of some).—Chiefly valued for its handsome appearance; easily bruised; ripens unevenly; fair quality. Tree vigorous, not quite hardy. FM. CS.

Stump.—Planted six trees, 15 years ago; two are alive; too tender. Killed out in Stark Denver orchards.

SUMMER KING.—Another **MOST VALUABLE** apple, old, yet little known,—because force of habit has kept less worthy sorts to the fore. Has won its way, however, in several states; cultivated largely in Ky. [see under Red Harvest], where it is highly prized as the best and handsomest apple of its season. At the head in Md. Above medium to large, striped with crimson, red and orange. Tender, brittle, juicy, excellent; core small. Excels Fanny, Gravenstein, Chenango, etc. Aug. FM. NCS.

Very acme of beauty; excellent quality, firm and stands up well after picking. **Superior to any apple** of its season with me, either for home use or market. I have **no variety**, in a large collection embracing all the best market summer apples, **that equals it.** Bright red color, fine quality.—J. W. KERR, Md., 1894. LATER, '95: Tree equally fine as Red Astrachan; ripens a little later, but a few days earlier than Fanny. **Fruit without a peer.** Starr is atrociously bad in color. LATER: Specimens of it sent to the U. S. Pomologist, aroused more than ordinary interest; he says: «Large, bright red, with darker colored stripes; excellent bearer.» It possesses every quality to commend it as a **valuable market variety**, while for home use it is **without a rival.** LATER: A **magnificent** apple, superior to any other of its season. . . Beautifully striped; excellent quality. Tree a fine, vigorous, upright grower, forming a beautiful round head in orchard; a **heavy bearer.** Very valuable.—J. W. KERR, Md.

SURECROP (Trade-Mark).—Originated in the orchard of Porter Bro's, Ark. [See pg. 8.] They say: «**Blooms later** than Geneton, ripens with Horse and M. Blush, but is much finer, pays more; we hauled it 80 miles to Ft. Smith and it stood up better than any other sort. Large, conical, fine red, striped; GOOD to eat or cook. Full bearer—very full one year, then half crop the next.» Porter Bro's think so much of it they had young trees grafted for their own orchard,—these, the 3d yr., bore the past season. FM. NCS.

Sutton Beauty.—The Ill. Exp. St'n says: «Two trees planted in 1869. Bore in '78, '79; both dead in '84.»

Sweet Bough (Large E'y Bough).—A fair and large apple. Tree too tender, short-lived; scant bearer.

Ill. Exp. St'n: Two trees planted in 1869. One died previous to 1884, the other bore a fair crop in 1884 and a few apples in '86. Large, otherwise of no special merit. **Mich. Exp. St'n**: Has one serious fault—lacks productiveness.

Takapuna and Traveler.—Two of the best New Zealand winter apples. See under Lord Wolseley, pg. 29.

VANDIVER Improved.—Grown in Stark nursery a half century. Tree resembles Smokehouse, vigorous,

large, spreading, hardy. Large, flat, marbled red, crimson stripes; very dark red on sunny side. Firm, crisp, breaking. Very juicy and rich. Nov. to March; in its prime at Christmas.

Trees planted in our orchard in 1843 still stand; have been **white with blossoms every spring**, and have never failed to bear at least a partial crop. School boys «know apples.» Well, it is now 30 years and more since the writer went regularly to the little red school house where many a school boy swap was made, «two Genetons for one Vandiver.» FM. NCS.

Wagener.—Medium to large, red; tender, good—poor when allowed to overbear; usually short-lived, blights.

WAGENER Improved (Trade-Mark).—A large red apple, extra delicious—instantly reminding one of a well-grown Wagener. Tree much like Red Astrachan. Origin N. W. Ark. Promises to be exceedingly valuable for home use on account of high quality. Season of Jonathan. F. NCS.



Stark 6-yr. Trees
Stark Soil Culture
Stark Denver Orchards

Not a Weed

He was 63 years old when, 8 years ago, Edw. Marsh planted 100 apple trees per acre on average hillside land. This year he rec'd over \$100 net cash per acre for the crop. These trees have paid expenses for the last 3 yrs. Here's a lesson for younger men, who want to become absolutely independent.—Crawford Co. (Mo.) Mirror.

"Never too old."—Beecher said, "I never planted any pears till after 50 years of age—have picked good crops of pears for 12 years." Such experiences are not rare. The late Judge James Stark, grandfather of the present owners of the STARK NURSERY, when long past 50, planted what was then the largest orchard in the state. While doing so, he was jokingly told by a neighbor that it was a great waste of time, since he could not hope to receive any benefit from the trees. "But others may," was the quick reply. He lived to be nearly 80, and sold many thousands of dollars worth of apples from the orchard—known all over the north, buyers coming annually from Iowa, Wis. and Minn. to secure the crop.

'Twas 70 years ago, as now.—Hon. T. M. Carroll, in Pike Co. News: A short time since I rec'd a catalogue from the Stark Bros., in which they give part of a conversation touching my recollection of their grandfather, Judge Jas. Stark. Among the earliest recollections of my boyhood is meeting the Stark boys (father and uncles of the present Stark brothers) in school or at Cunningham's old horse mill. One thing that impressed my memory was that those boys always had apples. My recollection of old Uncle Jimmy Stark reaches back to the year 1828. Our acquaintance was intimate and mutual. In 1852, when I went to the nursery to get my first 50 apple trees [Photo of one of these 50 trees, «Over 40 years old, good for 40 more,» on pg. 17—Mr. C. in foreground] he inquired why I did not plant 500 instead of 50, assuring me that if I would plant and take good care of 500, in 15 years their product would buy any farm adjoining mine. He then repeated a conversation with old Uncle Billy McLeod, in 1825. Judge Stark had sent back to Lexington, Ky., for 500 scions to graft trees to add to his orchard. [The commercial nursery was started in 1825, although trees for his own use were grown soon after his arrival from Ky., in 1816.] «Why, Jimmy,» said Uncle Billy, «before those trees bring a full crop the apple market will be glutted.» «Where's the glut to come from?» answered Stark. Then he said to me, «That trouble has been brought forward every year since that time, yet the man who plants trees to-day and cares for them will gather a larger reward for his labor than ever before.» Many years have passed since 1852; fifteen years afterward, in '67, I commenced acting upon Uncle Jimmy's advice, but how often I've wished I had taken his advice at the time, yes, planted five times 500. Had I done so, his predictions would have been verified in full. Yet he who plants trees now has a better prospect for reaping a rich reward in the future than he who planted in 1825. This grand old pioneer brought with him to this country his keen perception of the fruit-growing business and the ideas he entertained have been impressed upon his descendants till they have materialized into a national institution, the present Stark Nursery. And still it is an open question, «Where's the glut to come from?»

A Ruling Passion in the Stark family for many generations back, has been the love of horticulture. We copy from the family records: Richard Stark revised the colonial law in 1774 (in Va.), Stark's Va. Justice. On the fly leaf of the old law book is a list of his fruit trees, written in 1789: «East of the fifth row, all of the second row and the west end of the third row and all of the fourth row and the west end of the fifth row are Vandevvers; the north end of the above are Father Abrams, southward that is called the fifth row were planted March 27th, 1789. The west are Horse apples and quinces then Jersey pears.»

Old men plant trees, Young men haven't time. Are you wise to postpone beginning from year to year? others have done that and hence, when they were advanced in life, regretted not having begun earlier. Life is too short to allow any part of it to pass without having plenty of fruit. And as a business —what that the soil produces is more profitable, what business so free, so full of true pleasures?





RED JUNE

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BY STARK BROS.



EARLIEST OF ALL





EARLIEST-of-ALL in Blossom

EARLIER than any other plum. Follows strawberries; ripe here June 12, full 10 days ahead of Red June, half as large, fine dark red, FREESTONE. IMMENSE bearer; free from rot. This and Red June are HARDEST of all Japs in tree, bud, blossom—have given a SIX SUCCESSIVE CROPS, two of them when Abundance and Burbank were all killed.

PHOTO COPYRIGHT - 1917 BY STARK BROS.



When Death Comes for me he will find me busy unless I am asleep; for if I thought I were going to die to-morrow, I would nevertheless **plant a tree** to-day.—STEPHEN GIRARD.

Plant Trees.—“As we received much from our ancestors, we owe much to posterity, and in no way can we make a greater payment on the debt than by planting trees. Every other product of the soil ends with the season. The promptings of selfishness and the sentiment of gratitude alike invoke us to plant trees. Trees are almost immortal; their lives span the generations, a memorial, a rich inheritance we bequeath to those coming after us.”

WEALTHY.—A most valuable apple of fine size and appearance, closely following M. Blush. Everywhere the very best of its season. Young, sure and too profuse bearer; very hardy; has blighted in Colo.—where few sorts are exempt. Large, smooth, overspread with dark red; fine, juicy, vinous. FM. NNCS. FOUR-YR. Ben Davis and Wealthy are bearing 2 bushels to the tree.—H. A. WESTMORELAND, Spokane Co., Wash.

Ia. Hort. Soc.: Very hardy, young bearing, productive. **III. Hort. Soc.**: The very best fall apple.

Minn. Hort. Soc.: For young bearing and great productiveness Wealthy takes the diploma.—D. F. AKIN, '97.

Minn. State Fair, Oct. 1, '97: R. C. Keel, Rochester, Minn., showed many varieties; says Duchess, Wealthy, Longfield, are the best; sold 2000 bushels last year, 1500 this year, at \$2.25 a bbl. [See under YORK IMP'L]

Colo. Hort. Soc.: Ben Davis for profit; Grimes Golden, Wealthy, Duchessa, both for profit and FRUIT.—G. J. SPEAR. Would not exchange Wealthy for anything—until blight hit it a good deal. Still profitable.—D. BROTHERS. ONE year after another Wealthy is the most profitable fall apple of all. Although subject to blight, enough fruit buds are left to produce a crop. Its color, size and flavor always make it in demand.—Denver Field & Farm.

STANDS at the very head of the list.—L. WOLVERTON, Sec., Ontario Hort. Soc., Canada.

Short lived [plant close], but as it begins to bear almost as soon as set out and bears heavily and persistently, it is very profitable. Keeps better if gathered as **soon as seeds are colored**.—Rural New Yorker.

White Pippin.—Large, usually fair, greenish; acid, not rich; not a good keeper. K. C.

III. Hort. Soc.: White Pippin has not been profitable as a market apple.

STARK
NURSERY

WHITE WINTER PEARMAIN.—Medium to large; yellow, often bronzy; rich, excellent—for **high flavor**, incomparably superior to Huntsman. Chief objection, seab—but OK in Colo., N. M., Cal., Ariz., etc.

Ten trees in Stark Denver orchards are hardy; do finely. Does well in Central Ia. F. NCS.

Mo. Hort. Soc.: Years ago was very profitable, then seabed badly; fine last 2 or 3 years.—H. LONG, Holt Co., Mo.

Ariz. Pom. Soc.: Scabs, but good in dry regions when sprayed; notably successful in all parts of Ariz.

Willow Twig.—Large; greenish, with more or less red; coarse; chief merit, long keeping. Blights badly.

Mo. Hort. Soc.: Not profitably—See L. A. GOODMAN. Have rejected it.—Judge S. MILLER. **Blight damaged**

Lowell, Willow Twig, Stark, Tolman Sw't. Shall root out Tolman and Lowell.—G. A. TURNER, Linn Co., Mo.

III. Exp. St'n: Short-lived; 3 trees planted, 1869: One died before fruiting, another died in 1884, and the 3d was

nearly dead when cut out in 1889.—Prof. T. J. BURILL.

Kan. Hort. Soc., Dec. '97: COOK: Put W. Twig on retired list. ROBINSON: Entire failure; not a single tree has paid for its roomy apples defective from some blemish. HOLMAN: One of the worst to blight. FERRIS: It blights badly; carries it to other trees. GRIFFIN: Would not plant any more. McAFFEE: Have quite a number, but of no value. SHARP: Had 100 trees to die; apples rot on trees; have no use for it. WHITAKER: Would advise no one to plant it for profit. LUX: Good if you can get it perfect; good seller; had 200 trees planted 1872 and the first crop fruit was fairly good; but **bright came on**. I say it ought not go into any orchard.

WINESAP.—Needs rich, moist soils, good culture; not suited for poor soils. A good table and cider apple, and its fruitfulness makes it a favorite. Tree hardy, grows irregularly; not long-lived. Apples often drop. Medium; dark red; firm, crisp; rich flavor. FM. NCS.

Mo. Hort. Soc.: Despite too scanty foliage, deserves a place in market orchards.—R. SMITH, Linn Co., Mo.

Ore. Hort. Soc.: Winesap much freer from worms than other sorts. A great success in Ore.—Pres't E. L. SMITH.

N. C. Exp. St'n: Sure bearer—tends to overbear. In perfection is of fair size, great beauty, high quality; excellent keeper. Has of late commanded highest prices in N. Y. Tree not satisfactory: leaves are small, delicate, injured by fungus. There has been recently brought out a seedling of it, by Dr. Stayman, of Kan., that entirely remedies these defects, and the **apple is larger**—an advantage. It is known as Stayman Winesap.

U. S. Consul in Germany writes that he bought American Winesap at \$7.50 a barrel. Went back the next week to buy more and all were sold. We who raise fruit should take courage. The consul says American apples look better, taste better and sell faster than apples raised in the Fatherland.

WOLF RIVER.—This giant fruit is a most magnificent apple, whether on the tree or off. Attracts much attention. Unlike other large apples, it does not drop, hangs even better than Ben Davis, is a good eating apple, a most excellent cooker, and outshines and outsells all other large apples on the market.

Best sort to follow Wealthy and Nonpareil,—except in Colo., etc., where it blights—as does even Duchess. Succeeds on both upland and bottom—best on upland. A 6-yr. tree here bore a barrel of apples; they were gathered, measured, and some sent to the St. Louis Exposition—some to E. C. Simmons, pres't Simmons Hardware Co., who wrote: «They are the best cooking and finest apples I ever saw.» FM. NCS.

In my orchard, 6-yr.-old trees, Stark Wolf River, averaged 4½ bus. of fruit, nearly as much last year; 15½ in. around, weight 2½ oz.; every apple sound, without blemish.—J. MOULTON, Decatur Co., Ind.

Additional 2d Choice sorts, discarded for cause, —tested and found wanting:

Annette, Black	Colvert	Iowa Blush	Michael Henry Pip'n	Pyle Red Winter	Stevenson Winter
Autumn Bough	Cooper Market	Isham Sweet	Milam	Ramsdell Sweet	Swt' June (High Top)
Bailey Sweet	Cranberry Pip'n	Ivanhoe	Munson Sweet	Red Canada	" Pear
Baxter	" Win., Scarlet C.	Keswick Codlin	Nansemond B'ty	Romanite, Gilpin	Switzer
Belle de Boskoop	Dickinson	Krauser	Nero	" Big, Pennock	Tetofski
Beiflower, Flory	Dominie	Lady	Nickajack	Roman Stem	Tolman Sweet
" White, Ortey	Elkhorn	Lady Henniker	Ozark	Russet, Am. Gol.	Trenton E'y
Borsdorff	Enormous	Lady Sweet	Paradise Win. Sw't	Eng. Gol., Perry	Twenty Ounce
Bradford Best	Fall Orange	Lankford Sdg.	" Sum. "	Roxbury, etc.	Uttar Red
Brightwater	" Winesap	Lansingburg	Pearmain, Blue,	Salome	Vandevere, V.
Broadwell Sw't	Fulton	Limbertwig	Cannon, L. S., R. W., etc.	Saxton (Fall Stripe)	Pip'n, of N. Y., etc.
Buncombe (Red W.	Gloria Mundi	Longfield	Peach	Scott Winter	Walbridge
Permain, Ladyfinger)	Golden Sweet	Lowell (Greasy Pip'n)	Peck Pleasant	Shannon	Water
Cadwallader Gol.	Greening, Kan.	Mammoth Pip'n	Pickett	Shockley	Western B'ty
Celestia	Hoover	Mann	Plumb Cider	Sops of Wine	White Doctor
Charlamoff	Hubbardston	Marshall Red	Porter	Spencer	Williams Fav.
Clark Orange	Hyfill	May (Rheinish May)	Pound Sweet	Spitzenburg	Wine (Pa. Red S'tk)
Cole Quince	Indian	McMahon White	Primate	Standar	Wythe, and many others.

Why Is It Our LARGEST ORCHARDISTS all urge increased planting? Is it reasonable that they would thus advise if their own profits are lessened by competition? The truth is, these men have found overproduction of apples very improbable. It is wisdom to plant apple orchards and reap the **great profits** sure to result, if only reasonable care is given to trees and profitable sorts planted, such as Ben Davis, Gano, Jonathan, Mo. Pippin and others. This is the advice of men who are already large orchardists and buyers of trees, NOT sellers, and who have only the welfare of their fellow men at heart. Such men are safe counselors.—U. B. PEARSALL, Kan. Hort. Soc.

To London, 48 cars apples have been shipped lately, from Pajaro valley, Cal.; 216 carloads sent east. Mrs. G. D. Rodgers sold her orchard, 1500 trees, for four years at **\$2500 per year** for the apple crop.—Cal. Pajaronian.

Among a host of catalogues rec'd, some gorgeous, some tame, Stark Bros.' is the **Most Valuable** to the orchardist. An excellent production and I am reading it through.—**JUDGE S. MILLER**, Hort. Ed. Rural World. **LATER:** At the Mo. Hort. Soc. I recommended your trees to all, and convinced the Ark. man who lost 1000 trees from woolly aphis, that he could do no better than to order from you. In my RURAL WORLD report I refer to your display of trees. The simple and plain truth is, the nurserymen are all envious of the colossal enterprise you have built up, and are afraid of you. It is not your fault that some other firm has not grown up like yours. My wish is, that, in a few years, you can retire and give all your time to your orchards, and then see what others will make of it, if you sell out to them. At the Farmers' institutes I recommend you in my lectures. But you can scarcely have any idea how these nurserymen pick at me for the interest I take in your affairs, and for recommending your stock. What else can I do? They must follow suit if they want to keep pace with the times.—**JUDGE S. MILLER**, Hort. Ed. Rural World, St. Louis.

YELLOW TRANSPARENT.

—Best apple of its season in Minn., in Tex.—everywhere. Full cropper, often bears same year planted.

Dwarfish grower; use as a filler, or plant close—12 to 16 ft. harder, better everyday, than Tetofski. Sometimes blights;

Planted 250, Stark Yel. Transp., '92; fruit sold at \$3.50 per bbl.; E'y Harvest, \$1.25.—B. W. PAYNE, Hardin Co., Ky.

Planted 500 Yel. Transp., Stark trees, shipped Apr. 25, '90; though so late in the spring for planting, every tree grew; some bore next year. Since, orchard bears splendidly, and my St. Louis commission man says, if could grow enough of them, would push out of market all other early apples.—A. J. AGNEW, Lonoke Co., Ark.

Planted 400 Yel. Transp., Stark trees, in '92: **Most valuable** early apple; extra fine, cooker, large, attractive, a luxury. **Profitable**, so very early in market; ripe ahead of E'y Harvest. Upright grower; plant not over 14 ft. each way, and get large yield per acre; young, annual bearer. We use for dumplings taking out core, cooking only in the dough; cooks in one minute in boiling water.—J. W. ANDREWS, Wilson Co., Tenn.

Planted 8 yrs. ago, lot of Stark trees; loaded again this yr. with fine apples. Would not take \$50 for one Yel. Transp. tree; apples so good, get up in the night to eat them.—**BENJ. SIMPSON**, Livingston Co., Mo.

Ia. Exp. St'n: Available for home use or market; handsomer, earlier, better, than E'y Harvest.

Ia. Hort. Soc.: The only Russian that matured a crop, in 1893.

THE **BEST large size** early apple grown.—A. H. GRIESA, Exp. orchard, Douglas Co., Kan.

III. Hort. Soc.: Shipped to Chicago they brought \$2.75 per bbl. Had only 1 tree out of 60 that ever blighted

on my clay soil. A neighbor's trees, on stronger soil, blighted.—J. T. MCSPADDEN. As to blight, seems a matter of location; have 30 trees, 5-yr.-old, and never any blight.—J. W. STANTON. Will hang on; kept some in cold storage for months, equal to Duchess and Benoni.—W. S. PERRINE. The coming early apple for So. Ill.; grand.

Mich. Exp. St'n: Ripe July 22; Red Astrachan, Aug. 1; even sized; tender, juicy; vigorous, upright, very productive. Less than 2 months after planting late, Stark Yellow Transparent trees matured apples.—H. C. MILLER, Ark.

Mo. Hort. Soc.: E'y Harvest scabs badly; Yel. Transp. smooth, perfect, no scab; tree harder, bears earlier, better.

YORK IMPERIAL (Johnson Fine Winter).

In England fancied as a **Red** Newtown Pippin, and **sells high**—next to Newtown. Origin Pa., over 40 years ago; tested east, west, south, it often leads Ben Davis—except NOT SO HARDY north; fine in S. W. Iowa. (See under *Newtown Pippin*.) FM. CS.

Varies from large to very small on the same tree,—hence hard to grade. Awkward form, lop-sided,—making it difficult to pare on a machine. Light red, faint stripes. Crisp, firm, juicy, sub-acid; good, but not of high quality. Good keeper—unlike others, keeps even better in OPEN BOXES or bins than in tight barrels, retaining its flavor to the last. Still, it is our conviction that, unless for export, Ben Davis, Gano, Mo. Pippin, not to say Black Ben Davis and others, will usually yield quicker, surer, greater profits.

Mo. Hort. Soc.: Very prolific, good size, flavor almost equal to Jonathan.—**GILBERT**. One objection—it has too many sizes on the same tree.—**Pres't EVANS**. Has blighted badly with us.—**Pres't MURRAY**. Commanding highest price in Chicago to-day. Equals Ben Davis in everything, except quality—in which it is superior.—**HOLINGER**.

Very fine; large, handsome, profitable; am planting largely. On poor land—post oak flats—bore finest apples I ever saw.—**NELSON**. Finest, cleanest apples; one of the few kinds perfect this year.—V.—**Pres't MILLER**.

Have Packed York Imp'l Va., Ind., Ill., Mo.,—everywhere doing well.—**HASSLER BRO'S.**, wh. fruits, Louisiana, Mo. **Kan. Hort. Soc.:** Apples for profit: Yel. Transp., Benoni, Duchess, M. Blush; Wealthy, one of the best; Grimes Golden, Jonathan, Winesap, Ben Davis, Mo. Pippin, York Imp'l. **Most** profitable are Yel. Transp., Duchess, M. Blush, Wealthy, Jonathan, Winesap, Ben Davis.—**ENTSMINGER**. York Imp'l, Ben Davis, Mo. Pippin, will bring quickest returns.—**GALHOUSE**. York Imp'l is the **best** apple grown. I made this statement years ago. I speak now from 30 years' experience.—E. P. Diehl, Johnson Co., Kan. LATER, 1897—See under *Mo. Pippin*.

Pa. Hort. Soc.: Our people are all « York Imperial Crazy. »—C. L. LONGSDORF, Adams Co., Pa., Jan. 2, '98.

A **grand apple** in all the great apple growing sections, east to west. One of the very best winter apples in N. J. and Va.; and all along westward to Colo. and Cal., an eminent success. In the great Baldwin regions of N. Y. and Mich. they now think it worthy. Tree bears well; fruit is red, keeps late. Mo. orchardists need not be afraid to plant it moderately beside Ben Davis and the **few other good market apples**.—Prof. VAN DEMAN.

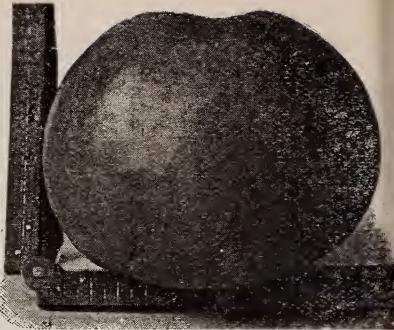
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Apples in Va.—Orchards that had good care yielded liberally, and are **paying tremendous dividends**. . . . English buyers were out among farmers paying from \$3.50 to \$4.50 per barrel for apples in the orchards, and I was shown returns from shipments made direct by orchardists that netted over \$5 per barrel at the R. R. station. Two farms that I was on could have been bought 5 years ago at less than \$5000 each, and yet the 1897 apple crop of one sold for \$14,000, the other for \$15,000, buyer gathering fruit from trees.—J. H. HALE, in Hartford Courant.

Apples can be shipped right through from orchards to Liverpool, London, Glasgow, and the continent of Europe, without the intervention of middlemen or agents. One friend of ours in Piedmont, Va., shipped *Newtown-Albermarle Pippin*, direct to Glasgow, Scotland, and netted \$2.10 **more** per barrel than the **highest** price paid to his neighbors by agents and local buyers. Va. and N. Car. are able to comply with the requisites for successful apple-growing. These being facts, is there not encouragement to plant orchards, especially apple orchards?

We think so, and strongly urge the subject on your attention. There is no doubt the foreign demand is being stimulated by the heavy shipments this year, and in future years people there will demand our apples. If it is decided to plant, now is the time to begin. Do not plant deeper than trees stood in nursery, nor apply manure or fertilizer in the holes before planting. As to sorts, these cannot be far wrong: E'y Harvest, M. Blush, Baldwin, Winesap, M. B. Twig, York Imp'l (*Johnson Fine Winter*), *Newtown-Albermarle Pippin*.—So. Planter.

The **Calamity** of too many **EARLY** peaches, apricots, etc., has not discouraged apple, pear, plum or peach planting of the later, safer and better sorts—it has simply given a double value to such magnificent stand-by apples as Jonathan, Winesap, Rome B'ty, Grimes Golden, M. B. Twig, etc. Ben Davis, Mo. Pippin, Janet, etc., are good bearers, but **no longer favorites** with growers, buyers or consumers. Many are working whole orchards over to Jonathan, Winesap, etc., or digging out to make room for better kinds. Your new commercial varieties are attracting general notice and the call for Senator, Delicious, Black Ben Davis, Apple of Commerce, Champion, etc., will be general from western Colo. Our people want the very best long keeping apples, and in future nothing else will find a welcome here. The days of foolish experimental trials by Colo. orchardists are now over, and in all orders hereafter, « only the best » will be the demand—together with implicit faith and **confidence in the nursery bought of**.—R. J. COFFEY, Delta Co., Colo., Jan. 19, '98.



A STARK YELLOW TRANSP. (3½ IN.).

Excels E'y Harvest. Earlier, larger, if possible plant on thin soils. FM. NCNS.

Planted 250, Stark Yel. Transp., '92; fruit sold at \$3.50 per bbl.; E'y Harvest, \$1.25.—B. W. PAYNE, Hardin Co., Ky.

Planted 500 Yel. Transp., Stark trees, shipped Apr. 25, '90; though so late in the spring for planting, every tree grew; some bore next year. Since, orchard bears splendidly, and my St. Louis commission man says, if could grow enough of them, would push out of market all other early apples.—A. J. AGNEW, Lonoke Co., Ark.

Planted 400 Yel. Transp., Stark trees, in '92: **Most valuable** early apple; extra fine, cooker, large, attractive, a luxury. **Profitable**, so very early in market; ripe ahead of E'y Harvest. Upright grower; plant not over 14 ft. each way, and get large yield per acre; young, annual bearer. We use for dumplings taking out core, cooking only in the dough; cooks in one minute in boiling water.—J. W. ANDREWS, Wilson Co., Tenn.

Planted 8 yrs. ago, lot of Stark trees; loaded again this yr. with fine apples. Would not take \$50 for one Yel. Transp. tree; apples so good, get up in the night to eat them.—**BENJ. SIMPSON**, Livingston Co., Mo.

Ia. Exp. St'n: Available for home use or market; handsomer, earlier, better, than E'y Harvest.

Ia. Hort. Soc.: The only Russian that matured a crop, in 1893.

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STARK
TREES

Crabs

FLORENCE.—Far away, the most valuable crab ever fruited here. Early, large, beautiful, excellent; **youngest bearer**, most prolific, most profitable of all. The crab to plant in small space—6-ft. is ample. FM NNCS.

Originated by P. M. Gideon, Minn. Exp. St'n. We saw an acre of Florence trees in full bearing there in '86, their crimson loads a wondrously beautiful sight. Mr. G. also raised Wealthy, Martha, etc. Of Florence he writes us:

HARDEST tree of all. YOUNG and profuse bearer. When in full fruit the most ornamental tree we grow. Size same as Transcendent, but far superior in productiveness, beauty, quality. LATER, Dec. 22, '97: You give exact form, size, color; quality of Florence for sauce, is delicious. Both it and Martha came from Duchess seed, crossed with Cherry crab.

Florence bore at 5 yrs. from seed, and Yearly since, on all soils, and loaded so full as to nearly hide the leaves. In full fruit looks like a huge Flowering Almond, and for any yard or garden, is a beautiful ornament. No apple or crab can excel it in hardiness, none more exempt from BLIGHT. Never lost a tree from blight; thousands of other trees blighted all around them.

As to **Martha**; bore 6 yrs. from seed, strong grower, stiff, wiry; bears mostly on spurs; on good clay subsoil bears full; with us the richer the land, the less the crop. Excels in quality for sauce. . . As yet no bids for control of my new sorts. All the nurserymen plead hard-pressed, few sales, hard collections. Am still striving to de-

velop better apples, and it's long keepers I'm after. Feel sure some of your long keepers sent me, will fruit here; scions top-grafted spring '94 have not lost a bud.—PETER M. GIDEON, Minn., Exp. Orchard, Dec. 22, 1897.

North: Young Florence quite full. They are beauties.—G. G. MEEK, Decatur Co., Iowa, Aug., 1897.

South: A 4-yr. tree loaded to the ground; more beautiful than a rosebush in bloom.—W. B. SHIPP, Union Co., Ga.

III. Hort. Soc.: Florence is Gideon's most beautiful and most successful crab.

TRANSCENDENT and Florence both had their leaves two-thirds grown in a freeze March 25. Both leaves and twigs of Transcendent were killed. Florence entirely unhurt.—Prof. G. H. FRENCH, So. Ill. University.

BEST on earth, the only crab to plant here. Has not missed bearing since 3 yrs. old. **Worth all other crabs put together.**—T. W. PAGE, Supt STARK DENVER ORCHARDS, Littleton, Colo.

The best sort to dodge late spring frosts, and for cooking equals any apple.—O. H. GALLUP, Weld Co., Colo.

Fruit Trees for Shade.—No better combination of beauty with utility can be imagined than the use of certain fruit trees for shade, as well as for food, in place of the elms and soft maples so generally used.

First should be the apple, of all trees the most beneficial. A thing of beauty from its verdurous youth to its blossom-crowned and fruit-laden maturity. . . After the apple, as a tree for shade and ornament, ranks the cherry. Not the sweet sorts—beloved of borer and curculio, but the hardy, rapidly developing, sub-acid varieties. With scarcely any attention after planting, these cherries are densely leafy, exquisite in their veil of white blossoms in April, and beyond compare for beauty in June, when their branches bend beneath the weight of juicy, crimson fruit,—most refreshing when eaten fresh from the tree, but delectable in jam.

The peach also merits consideration, especially as it adapts itself easily to the small lots and smoke-laden atmosphere of cities, but its low growth and comparatively short life render it less valuable as a shade tree than those mentioned. Where a little space can be afforded it, however, it should not be omitted, as even one or two trees will, in their season, contribute largely to table luxury. . . Fruit trees, then, for homesteads, in which we secure not only shade, but unsurpassed floral wealth and Pomona's choicest treasures.—M. E. MURTFIELD.

HYSLOP.—Vigorous, not very productive, inclined to blight; in Colo. does better than east. Oct. M. NNCS. III. Exp. St'n: While this is usually recommended as one of the best, it has not done well here.—Prof. BURRILL.

MARTHA.—STRONG grower; shy bearer,—blooms full but often fails to set fruit well. Aug. F. NNCS. Colo. Hort. Soc.: At Eaton noticed a case of immunity from blight in row of crab trees, Martha and Whitney alternating. Whitneys were everyone dead while not a Martha had been touched.—Prof. C. CRANDALL.

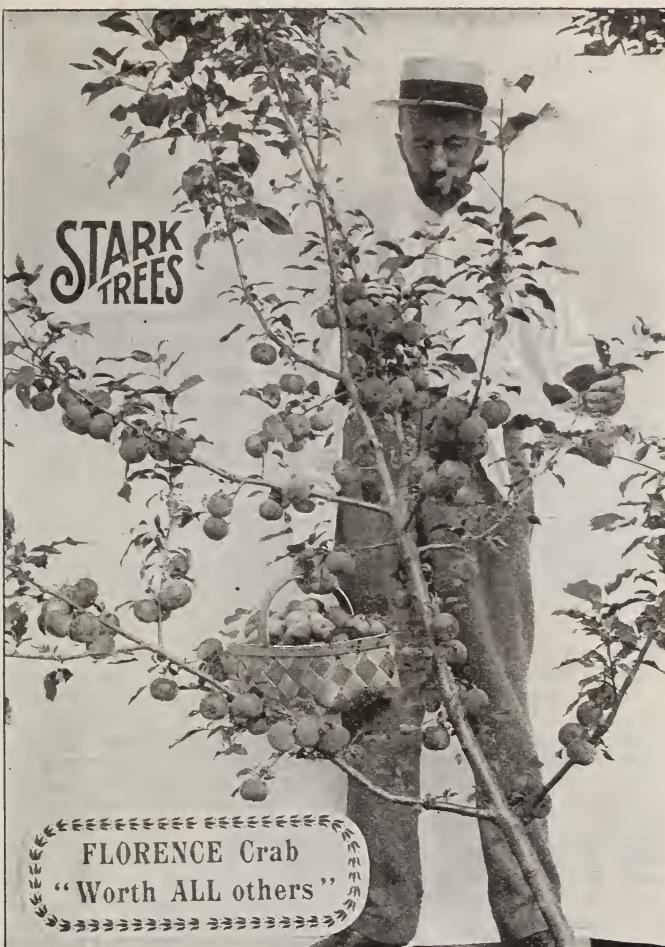
Transcendent.—Strong grower, but ought to be planted no longer—infests other trees with its blight.

WHITNEY.—Not equal to Florence for jellies, etc.—rather a small apple of good quality than a true crab. Mich. Exp. St'n: Tree shows few, if any, of the crab peculiarities; fruit differs radically in texture and flavor.

Buyers will raise fruit of sorts that will sell in car lots, and we will find you and take care of you.

Orchard Farms, Fruit Lands—we are interested in over 3,000 market orchards in 24 states. Some are for sale, outright. Write us your wants; we will put you in communication with sellers without expense.—STARK BRO'S.

For **Fruit Lands** in Ark., or **DEPENDABLE** information, write Sec'y Ark. Hort. Soc., H. M. Strother, Ft. Smith, Ark.



CHERRIES

GERMAN OSTHEIMER (Weichsel).—This grand cherry (NOT the Russian, nor the Minn., nor the Cerise de Ostheim) is superior to others of the Eng. Morello type. Has done remarkably well both here and in Stark Denver orchards—where, in '89, both it and Suda bore 2 quarts each on little trees less than 14 months planted,—since, a single crop has paid over \$7 a tree. Mont. O. has also done exceedingly well in Colo.—where Richmond and Dyehouse bloom too early. FM. NNCS.

Brought from Germany to Kan., where it was beginning to attract much attention about the time the inferior Ostheims were exploited; when, because of similarity in name, they were assumed to be identical—greatly to the loss of cherry culture generally. **Genuine German O.** has made a great reputation; but is bushy, hard and costly to grow. The Ostheims are strong, easily grown; unscrupulous men have been quick to sell Ostheimer and send Ostheim, and the average buyer cannot know they are counterfeit until bearing time. In Colo., where cherries pay over \$1000 per acre, and German O. is a favorite, the Ostheims will not please. The genuine is large, heart shaped, almost black when ripe, full of purple juice, exceedingly rich, less acid than Eng. Morello, Suda or Wragg; good for dessert and for kitchen uses. Very hardy both in tree and fruit bud, blooms late, and even young trees bend under their weight of fruit with unfailing regularity; no rot, no failures,—some years has yielded twice as much as any other kind. A week later than Suda and Eng. Morello; less leaves, easier to pick. Hangs late—till end of Aug. in Colo. Is seldom wormy, while English Morello is nearly always so.—A. H. GRIESA, Exp. Orchard, Kan. TREES are a sight, brim full and running over with very large, black cherries.—F. HOUSHOLDER, Okla. Immense; the little dwarf is a mighty giant. A king among cherries.—C. M. MOSER, Wayne Co., Mo. Am very proud of the success of the Ostheimer Stark trees on my place.—E. R. HOCKSTETTER, Tenn. Sold Cherry Crop for \$900 ac. acre, the next year, \$857; last year, \$1200 an acre.—E. EASLEY, Jeff. Co., Colo.

 German O., Suda, etc., may be hastily condemned; fruit colors red before two-thirds grown.

ABBESSE.—Hardy, very vigorous, but with us proves a shy cropper; bears best on THIN soils. F. NCS. Never Plant cherry trees on wet land; they will thrive on dryer soils than most other fruits, but can't endure wet feet. Rows along fences and roads pay. Heart and Biggareau sorts are "sweets." Dukes include such as May Duke and Reine Hortense. Morellos are Mont. O., Suda, etc.; called "sours," all being tart,—but surest, best for cooking, preserving, canning; pay two to one the most money.

Sours are Hardest, Dukes next. Sweets, the best kinds, are named in 2d Choice List; but tenderness in tree, fruit rot, curculio, etc., make them all unreliable, west; indeed, even east, sweets PAY much less than sours. Sweets are grown chiefly on the Pacific Coast, for shipping fresh.

Do Not Prune cherry trees more than absolutely necessary. The cherry is more injured by pruning than any other tree. Plum and pear need little pruning, peach very much.—J. FAITH, Mo. Hort. Soc.

DYEHOUSE.—Best very early cherry; ripe with mid-season strawberries. Earlier, larger, firmer, better quality, and pit smaller than E'y Richmond—equally hardy and prolific. FM. NCS.

Dyehouse, Montmorency O., Monarch, Suda Hardy, German Ostheimer, cover the entire season—the best and most satisfactory out of over 200 sorts tested. With this "Big 5" we don't need any others. The new Russian cherries this year are far behind; have just been over the orchard with book in hand and find on them but little fruit as compared with Mont. O., Dyehouse, Ger. Ostheimer, Richmond, Eng. Morello. Very poorest for profit are L. Philippe and Olivet. Bessarabian is a very slight crop, while Wragg next to them, are loaded. Not much fruit on Lutovka, Vladimir, Abbesse, etc.—A. H. GRIESA, Exp. Orchard, Kan., June '97. Young trees were heavily loaded. First came Dyehouse, then Mont. O., followed by Suda, Eng. Morello, Wragg, Ger. Ostheimer; the last July 15, fine, perfect fruit. Paid \$2 to \$3 a tree.—H. A. BARNETT & SON, Pike Co., Mo.

EARLY RICHMOND.—Fairly good market sort; not equal to Dyehouse, far behind Mont. O.; were not the latter a more expensive tree to grow, it would have taken the lead long ago. FM. NCS.

Cornell Exp. St'n: Not very valuable. Flavor and quality poor, fruit soft and small. Has been used by canners, but the better cherries are bound to drive it out.—Prof. L. H. BAILEY.

Colo. Hort. Soc.: Tree 11 yrs. planted, yielded 11 bu. of fruit. **Del. Hort. Soc.:** Most profitable, Mont. O., E'y Rich.

Eng. Morello (Large E. M.)—Large, dark red; juicy, acid. Tree small, young bearer, prolific. FM. NNCS.

Improved Dw'f Rocky Mt.—Not a cherry at all but a plum; like the old Utah Hybrid fraud of 25 yrs. ago. Mich. Exp. St'n: Utterly worthless for any purpose.—Pres't T. T. LYON. Valueless; a humbug.—J. W. KERR, Md.

Louis Philippe.—A fine GROWER, but not productive, nor hardy; ripens with Mont. O., but is sourer.

Mich. Exp. St'n, 1896: Lacks essential quality of productiveness. 1897: Persistently unproductive.—Pres't LYON.

MAY DUKE.—Often does well on warm, dry soil, but not very hardy. Large, red, excellent. F. CS.

MONARCH (Trade-Mark).—Better than Mont. O., is very highest praise. At Ia. Exp. St'n we noted a 10-yr.

Mont. O. fruiting finely; just ripe. Right next is the Monarch, of same age, but a still larger, finer tree, bearing twice as much fruit as Mont. O. Cherries already ripening in top of tree, compared with Mont. O., were MUCH longer stemmed, LARGER, of FINER FLAVOR, BETTER QUALITY; week later. FM. NNCS.

Prof. Wragg told us his father, the late John Wragg, vice pres't Ia. Hort. Soc., had for many years annually compared the fruit from the two trees, growing side by side, and invariably decided "Monarch is the better of the two." In growth the most perfect cherry tree we have seen. E'y Richmond in comparison, is a very ordinary grower. Upright, fine round head,—a beautiful tree, both in nursery and orchard. We at once purchased a half interest in Monarch and shall grow it most largely,—for, while inferior to Mont. O. in no particular, it is superior in tree, as a cropper, in size, in flavor and quality, and more easily picked because of its long stems.—Strong 1-yr. trees ready fall '98.

 With Scissors we pick cherries—3 times faster. Clip stems about an inch long; hence buyer gets more fruit, fewer stems. Best of all, the fruit buds for next crop are not pulled off with stems.

Col. Hort. Soc.: Am often asked why cherry orchards bear one season, fail the next. We clip cherries with scissors, and save the fruit buds. Everyone following our plan reports no more off years.—T. W. PAGE, Colo.

**GERMAN
Ostheimer,
Stark
Denver
Orchards**



**STARK
TREES**



STARK TREES BEARFRUIT

STARK TRADE MARK

SUDA HARDY

SUDA HARDY.—A valuable late cherry, an improved Eng. Morello—of which it is doubtless a seedling. The old tree, in the garden of Capt. Suda, Louisiana, Mo., did not fail to bear in 20 years—was in perfect vigor when cut down to make way for houses. Photo shows portion of a Stark 4-yr. Suda here in Mo. In shape, color, quality, closely resembles its supposed parent; in yield **surpasses** that famous old sort. Hardier, has **better foliage**, a slightly better grower. FM. NNCS.

The best sorts tested in Stark Denver orchards are Mont. O., German Ostheimer, Suda. All three are hardy, very early bearing **dwarfish** sorts—Mont. O. the least dwarfish of the three.

Colo. Hort. Soc.: Ostheimer and Suda (2-yr. trees) **bore full** last year—are a **wonder** this year. **Most excellent** here; you **cannot too highly recommend them**.—Pres't W. B. FELTON, Fremont Co., Colo.

SUDA tree, 8 years set, has given **5 heavy crops; this year, 13 gallons** and the trunk is barely 5 inches through, tree 10 ft. high. Every limb loaded. Bears every year, no failure.—P. J. THIEHOFF, Shelby Co., Mo.

Montmorency, Large.—Short, poor grower, wholly unlike Mont. O.—which often is miscalled Large Mont. True Lg. Mont., **17-yr.** trees in our orchard, bear almost nothing; leading western N. Y. growers report similar experience. So whenever you see Large Mont. recommended, be sure Mont. O. is really meant.

Mich. Exp. St'n: Whether there are three varieties, or two only, seems uncertain. Mont. O. is decidedly the best.

MONTMORENCY O.—Trees planted 1885, have given **11 successive crops without a failure**. Excepting Monarch alone, this is the **best canner**, best **all-purpose cherry**. Cannot be too highly recommended for its **never-failing crops** fine fruit, beauty and hardiness of tree. FMNNCS. See photo, pg. 38.

The Best Sour cherry we have found, after testing a great many varieties. It is **so good it supersedes almost all others**. About 10 days later than Richmond. Other desirable sour are Reine Hortense, Royal and Late Duke. The difficulty with some sour cherries is they **do not bear**.—ELLWANGER & BARRY, in Rural New Yorker.

PLANT Mont. O. in your big Colo. orchard; will **outpay anything you could plant**.—T. W. PAGE, Littleton, Colo.

Gathered **63 gals.** of cherries from a single tree in my yard.—T. G. EDWARDS, Pike Co., Mo.

In Minn.—Stark trees doing fine. . . Had Mont. O. cherries for supper, and they **are fine**: small pit, all meat; flavor best yet. Am publishing their good qualities and **where they came from**.—C. W. MERRITT, Winona Co., Minn.

Mont. O. trees, planted last spring, **bearing fine cherries**. My Stark trees fine.—T. M. FLEMING, Republic Co., Kan.

Mont. O. cherry set 2 years bearing quart fine cherries; 2-yr. Mo. Pippin bearing.—J. E. MAY, Adair Co., Mo.

In Montana.—Mont. O. sent last year are a **solid snowball of blossoms**. Stark trees fine.—W. R. GIBFORD, Mont.

Sour Cherries find a ready sale at from $7\frac{1}{2}$ to $8\frac{1}{2}$ per quart at the canning factories. **None of the small fruits equal** the sour cherry in the preservation, when canned, of its original fresh spicy dessert excellence.—Fruit.

Cornell Exp. St'n: The growing of sour cherries in western N. Y. is largely confined to two varieties, Mont. and Eng. Morello. Preference has been given to Eng. Morello. Just now, however, **canners are calling for Mont.** in preference; not so sour. Morello is apt to develop a bitterish or acid taste in the cans; also much subject to leaf-blight, whilst Mont. is **always free**, a stronger, more upright grower. Present drift is **decidedly toward Mont.**

... E'y Richmond is the only other white-juiced cherry grown to any extent. Not very valuable. . .

Cherry trees **require less attention** to pruning than apple and peach. Eng. Morello will bear the 3d year. Mont. a year or two later bearing. **Produces much more fruit**. Mont. 6-yr. trees may bear 30 to 75 lbs. of fruit.

At 18 x 18 ft., an acre will comprise 134 trees. If, at 8 years, they yield 20 pounds each, the crop would amount to 2680 pounds; at 5¢, \$134. This is a **conservative estimate**. Benj. Kean has 200 Mont. trees 6 years set. He has had three crops, one of 1400 pounds, one of 3000 pounds and one of 3100 pounds. He sold his entire crop this year for \$155. His trees are set 10 x 12 ft., about 360 to the acre. In other words, a crop which sold for over \$150 was taken from less than two-thirds of an acre. C. H. Perkins has 35 trees, 8 and 12 years old, all Mont. «They bear from 2000 to 3500 pounds of cherries per year and the average price is 6¢. Net us from \$100 to \$175 a year. **Most regular and sure cropper** of all fruits grown. **Always a ready market** at a good price.»

Insects and diseases are not serious upon the sour cherries. The curculio does not often attack mid-season and late kinds (such as Mont. and Morello) particularly if number of trees is somewhat large.—Prof. L. H. Bailey.

Wis. Exp. St'n: Eight-yr. cherry trees averaged 84 lbs. per tree, 5880 lbs. on 70 trees; which sold for 10¢ per lb.—\$588. Skillful pack'ng counts: The St'n shipped cases holding six baskets of 6 lbs. each; sold for \$1.50 to \$1.75, about 4½¢ per lb. Also sent cases holding 20 boxes of 2 lbs. each; sold for \$3.75 and \$4—about 9½¢ per lb.; fruit the same. . . Cherries thrive best in a warm, dry, loamy soil. The **sour cherry likes more moisture** than others.

Worth 50 years of life, says Prof. Bailey, of Cornell, to discover this cure for chronic constipation: Eat ripe fruit, all you can, **half hour before** each meal time—and at no other time if case be severe. Will restore health and strength, «renew youth,» give sound sleep, bring happiness. Try it—worth more than money.

**STARK
NURSERY**

Dw'f and St'd Pear,
1-yr.—3-yr. Roots

Cherries SOUTH: Planted 260 trees, 1894: Bl'k Tart'n, Yel. Spanish, Windsor, May Duke, E'y Richmond, Mont. O., Wragg, Ostheim, Dyehouse, Eng. Morello; in June, '96, picked cherries from every variety, except the first 3—sweets. The Richmond and May Duke have borne well. Mont. O. **Is My Choice;** has never failed to bear **since 2 yrs. old**, and increases the yield each year. Last June picked **2 bus.** a tree of such fine, perfect cherries that even «doubting Thomases» admitted **they were superb.** Often here in Tenn., late spring frosts destroy the early blooming sweets. Dukes do well with me. Morellos are the most hardy of all; **more reliable** south. Some remark they won't plant cherries; sprout badly... Two kinds of stocks are used, Mazzard and Mahaleb. The latter is the best root, especially for the south, where borers are so destructive. Mazzard stocks will always annoy by sprouting from the root; the borer also attacks it. Never plant cherries on low or wet ground. Outlook for profit in cherry growing is good. Who ever heard of a glut of cherries, or the demand in a city being supplied, especially south? Plant cherries! But be sure they are on Mahaleb roots.—E. F. WETMORE, Tenn.
Raising Shipping Cherries has been overlooked; only two cherry orchards in Maury Co. Would recommend for middle Tenn. Mont. O., E'y Richmond, Reine Hortense, Eng. Morello.—E. YOEST, Tenn. Hort. Soc.

Ostheim.—Ostheims tried by us are fine growers, but not valuable. Often bought for German Ostheimer. Cornell Exp. St'n: Productive, ripe a week after Rich'd; **too small, too early** to be valuable heré.—Prof. BAILEY. Ia. Exp. St'n: Ostheim, from Minn., fruit very good, but a shy bearer; no special value.—Prof. WRAGG. Ill. Exp. St'n, No. 7: Produced a scattering crop of small black cherries. Ripe June 13.—J. WEBSTER.

REINE HORTENSE.—A cherry of great excellence; largest and finest Duke. Quite hardy, long-lived; we have had 24-yr. trees still productive. Tender, juicy, nearly sweet, delicious. F. CS.

Mo. Hort. Soc.: The only trees now left in an orchard of 50 trees planted 25 years ago are Reine Hortense—one of the **largest an best** of cherries; one May Duke, one Napoleon.—Judge S. MILLER, Vice Pres't. Very largest of cherries; beautiful, glossy red. Universal bearer, and when hanging on the tree **no fruit is more beautiful**; excellent for canning, but too soft and juicy for shipment.—Prof. E. J. WICKSON, Cal. Exp. St'n.

Mich. Exp. St'n: Vigorous, productive, **excellent.** This and May Duke are worthy of **greater attention.**—Pres't LYON.

WRAGG.—Of Eng. Morello type; perhaps souther. Has fruited finely a dozen years for us. FM. NNCS. Colo. Hort. Soc.: The **Best Bearer** I have; next, Eng. Morello, then E'y Richmond, etc. Wragg is splendid, but difficult to pick, as stems adhere very firmly to tree.—F. CROWLEY, S. E. Colo.

Mich. Exp. St'n: Popular as an acid cherry where superior hardiness is requisite. Slow grower, young bearer. Old trees, in this county, have a record of **20 years without a failure.**—M. J. GRAHAM, Dallas Co., Ia.

REJECTED sorts include Belle de Choisy, Bessarabian, Lutovka, Orels, Vladimir, etc.; Bl'k Tartarian and all sweets; Empress Eugenie; Late and Royal Duke; Olivet, Ostheims, and many others.

Our Constant Aim is to find out and then grow the most worthy sorts. Then to lay aside others less desirable. We keep ever on the alert to obtain and test new kinds, and have tried and discarded a multitude. Occasionally one of real merit has come to stay, so that now our 1st choice lists include improvements in almost every good quality, throughout the entire round of fruits.

**STARK
TREES**

Partly cleared field, 2-yr. St'd Pear,---4-yr. Roots

PEARS

ANJOU.—Delicious late fall pear. Hardy, a good bearer. St'd, Dw't. FM. NC.

My greatest pleasure as a fruit grower, said the late Pres't Barry, is growing the Anjou pear. Sought after in market, and an ornament to any gentleman's table. **Best pear in the world.** Perfection.

Mich. Fruit Growers: Given preference as the most desirable variety to plant; n't apt to blight.

Has stood the extremes of Kan. **climate.** Strongly recommend it also, as a **dwarf.**—B. F. Smith, Kan. Hort. Soc.

Colo. Hort. Soc.: The only pear that has entirely escaped blight. A 15-yr. tree, in '96, gave me 10½ bu. marketable pears.—Pres't W. B. FELTON.

Hard to beat, always a favorite. Month after Bartlett; best pear of its season.—L. COATES, Ed. Cal. Fruit Grower.

BARTLETT (Bon Chretien—Good Christian).—Popular; young bearer; subject to blight. St'd, Dw't. FM. NCS.

Am. Hort. Soc.: Where Bartlett won't do plant Kieffer largely.—Pres't EARLE.

Dwarf Bartlett a most profitable crop. As much as \$750 an acre has been realized from a single crop.—Fruit.

Bartlett-Seckel (Columbia).—A fine shaped, thrifty tree; fruit only fair. RIPE now, but fruit is coarse grained. Quality fairly good.—Pres't RIEHL, Ill.

Bessimianka (Seedless).—Hardy, but blights. Valued far, far north where finer sorts won't stand. Fair quality.

Has proved (iron-clad)—hardy as a birch; very vigorous.—T. H. HOSKINS, Vt.

Montreal Hort. Soc.: Far the best pear grown in the severest parts of Russia

Birkett.—Originated in central Ill., 80 years ago. Fruit only fair, but tree has **never blighted.**

Never Known to Blight; an excellent fruit; comes into bearing slowly; valuable with age.—Prof. MUNSON, Tex.

BOUSSOCK.—Our favorite **old standby.** Bears **full every year—no failures.** Ripe July 25. FM. NCS.

Mo. Hort. Soc.: May to a great extent supersede Bartlett; fully equal in quality, ripens a week earlier.

The Market Pear of the Belgian farmer; **large, productive, showy,** and well known in the English market. Thousands of baskets of it are frequently seen on the London steamers' wharf at Antwerp.—Pres't BERCKMANS.

West'n. N. Y. Hort. Soc.: Pres't Barry recommends Boussock as a profitable late summer pear. All who had grown it with Bartlett thought it the **mere profitable of the two.**

South: Sorts worthless here—fruit insipid, leaves drop in July; Buffum, Rose, Diel, Anjou, Amanlis, Clairegeau, Easter Beurre, Glout Morceau, Lawrence, Onondaga, Sheldon, and Winter Nehis. Bartlett fine. **Boussock, too, is fine.** Next Seckel; then Duchess, Tyson, L. B. Jersey, Flemish B'ty, Clapp Fav.—JAS. STEWART, Tenn.

 **If picked when it rains**, apples, pears, etc., **will not keep.** The best time is during dry weather and sunshine. A **north wind** makes it so much the better, as it closes the pores of the fruit. Fall sorts pick when **seeds are brown**—winter fruit should **hang on the trees as long as possible.**

CLAIRGEAU (C. de Nantes).—Large, handsome; rather coarse, stringy, granular; flavor variable, often poor. Fine shipper, but market at once, or the coloring will turn black. Tree apt to shed its leaves too early.

Mich. Exp. St'n: Pears particularly desirable for market are Kieffer and Clairegeau.—Prof. L. R. TAFT.

CLAPP FAVORITE.—Large, fine; not of very high quality. Hardy, vigorous, apt to blight, especially dwarfs. Will rot at the core unless picked early. Poor shipper. Standard, Dwarf. F. NCS.

Mich. Exp. St'n: While productive, is not as valuable as some others.—Prof. L. R. TAFT.

DORSET.—Introduced by Ellwanger & Barry, who say: «A very handsome, showy, late keeper. Large; golden yellow, with bright red; juicy, melting, sweet. Keeps and ships well; a valuable late pear. Ripe in Feb., but keeps in perfection till May. Beautiful specimens were exhibited at the World's Fair in May, '93.» Tree a good grower, hardy. FM. NCS.

DUCHESSE (Angouleme).—The most **dependable** cropper and all round profitable market **DWARF** pear. Often bears first season after set. Frequently weighs over a pound. Std, Dw't. FM. NCS.

Have 25-year trees that still bear. On Quince stock almost exempt from blight.—Judge S. MILLER.

Tex. Hort. Soc.: Far the best bearer. More fruit than leaves. Ships well.

Only 65 pears to a bush, 175 to a bbl.; \$90 for nine bu. Usually worthless except as a dwarf.—N. E. FARMER.

U. S. Pomologist: The pear orchard of C. S. Mills, Mich., is very fine. Trees 8 yrs. old, mostly **Duchess dwarf**; in 1893 entire crop averaged \$5 per bbl. in Chicago; in '94, the crop was **simply enormous.**—Prof. HEIGES.

E'y Harvest.—Ripens AFTER Koonce. Beautiful to see; flavor like cottonwood chips. Jefferson ditto.

Mo. Hort. Soc.: Highly lauded; early, large, handsome; but about as worthless as a pear can be.—Judge MILLER.

FLEMISH BEAUTY.—In perfection, a superb pear. Large, beautiful, melting, sweet. Blights, but is very HARDY and fruitful; needs sunny situations,—or then fruit cracks and scabs. Std, Dw't. FM. NCS.

Neb. Hort. Soc.: Scattered over Neb., very healthy pear trees are found, fruitful, doing well. One of the most successful, is Flemish B'ty. Often maintains health, vigor, fruitfulness, for many years.—Pres't STEPHENS.

Trees are Like a great many other articles that are offered for sale—some good and some bad.

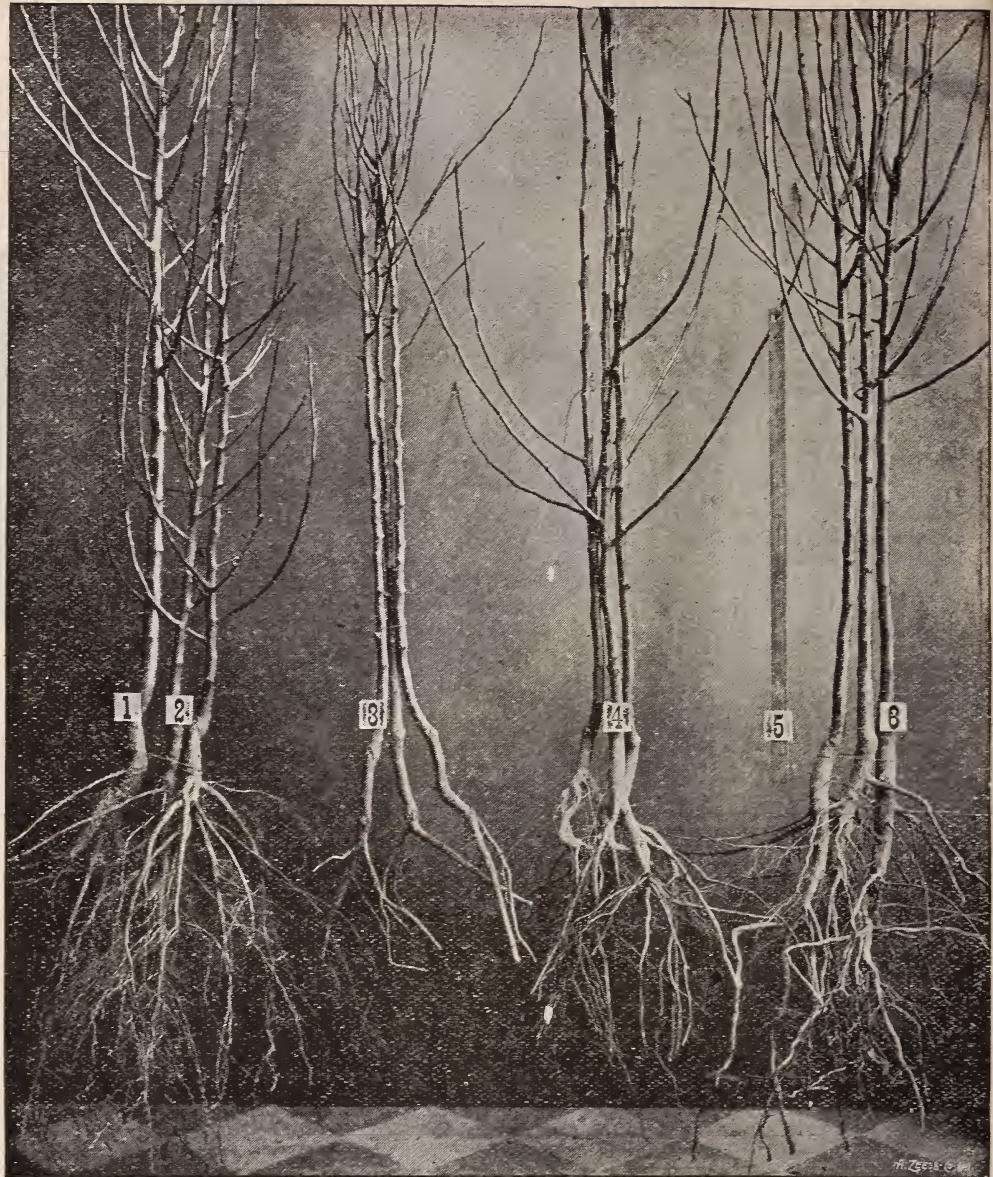
And the Tree Trade is just the same as other lines of goods—low grades sell for low prices.

No Trees are better or more carefully propagated than Stark Trees. We strive to gain the confidence of tree planters by always telling the truth about varieties, by selling at the lowest prices consistent with good value—**quality** first, next reduce the price by producing millions.

In the East, as throughout the west, Stark trees are largely sold—because of **high quality, low cost.**

The eastern demand is particularly large from Penn., O., N. J., Ct., Va., N. Y., New England, Canada.

Boussock



PEAR, ST'D 1- AND 2-YR.—3- AND 4-YR. ROOTS. ALL STARK TREES—EXCEPT THE "NO. 3" ON LE CONTE ROOTS

FAME (Trade-Mark).—We have never tasted a pear **so delicious**. —But it is well described by three of the very first American authorities. Tree vigorous, particularly strong as a dwarf. St'd, Dw'f. FM. NCS.

Long Ago it was said that for healthy, non-blighting, hardy, long-lived pears for the west, we must look to our native western seedlings. Fame, Lincoln, Koonce, Krull, Birkett, are native western seedlings.

Fame Pears rec'd some days ago and sampled. Was surprised to find them **so large**. Am greatly pleased with the quality, the flesh being **very fine grained, buttery** and of the **HIGHEST excellency**; seeds **few**, and almost **no core**. I congratulate you on being able to add **so good a pear** to our list.—Pres't E. A. RIEHL, Ill. Hort. Soc.

U. S. Pomologist G. B. BRACKETT: I thank you for the full and complete history of Fame. It is placed on record in this office. Pears also received. Size is **large**; color greenish yellow with slight bronzing on exposed side; flesh yellowish, **fine grained, buttery, juicy**; flavor mild, sub-acid, **sprightly**; quality **Very Good to Best**.

A NEW and seemingly valuable pear; specimens sent us by Stark Bro's. Picked Aug. 23, rec'd by us Sept. 10. The seedling tree grew near the old camping ground used by the men in building the tunnel under Boston Mt., Ark. The little daughter of E. H. Grube noticing it, her father dug it up when one year old, and transplanted it. After a few years, it was moved to a new home. In 1895 it bloomed heavily and continued to bloom through May and June, so that many second crop pears matured. While examining this tree on Oct. 14, '95, Mr. Stark discovered one pear still hanging near the top which Mr. Grube said was of the third crop. Mr. Stark found it of **delicious quality** and without a trace of seed or core, and Mr. Grube said most of the pears, except the first crop, were seedless. Many of the first crop pears **weighed a pound** or more each. Thought to be a seedling of a variety of local celebrity called Two-Crop pear. Fame ripens its first crop, which of course is the main one, just before Flemish B'ty. The pears sent us were **very juicy, melting, sweet and rich**, the characteristic flavor being a **Pure, Delicious Sweetness**. Size **just 16 inches**, the long circumference.—Rural New-Yorker.



St'd Pear, 1-yr.-3-yr. Roots

STARK
NURSERY

GARBER.—For dollars and bushels, Garber and Kieffer are sure and dependable. Both are hardy, about blight-free, heavy bearers. Garber is large and beautiful, bright yellow with red; juicy, good—fine canned. Ready to pick a few days after Le Conte—much SURER. Gone before Kieffer comes in.

Plant Garber and Kieffer 10 or 12 ft. apart, for road or avenue trees—see photo. Besides their fruit you will be richly repaid with their splendid columns of living green in summer and gorgeous autumn coloring, “in purple and red.” Also fine set about old buildings, or among other trees.—Easy to combine ornament and utility. See under Lincoln pear and Florence crab. FM. NCS.

Mo. Hort. Soc.: Market planters—grow Kieffer, Garber, DWARF Duchess! For local markets, add L. B. Jersey, Seckel. In an orchard of 1000 pears, set 650 Kieffer, 200 Garber, 100 Duchess dwf—and might include 25 L. B. Jersey dwf, 25 Seckel. Kieffer and Garber are **most profitable**; plant only these in quantity; every 3d or 4th row Garber—ripe early in Sept., beautiful orange color. Kieffer, picked late in Sept., and shipped to distant markets by freight, will often reach there a rich golden yellow—not mellow, but in condition to **bring most money**.

Raised 51 Pears, extra fine, on one Garber Stark tree, set three years ago.—H. H. HECK, Sullivan Co., Ind. Have 1500 pear, mostly Kieffer and Garber, set 18 ft. apart; bear **beautiful fruit—and it sells.**—M. HARRIS, Tex.

III. Hort. Soc.: Kieffer, house ripened, are good. Very productive; very large, beautiful; a good thing. **Wish I had thousands growing.** Garber is better. Le Conte, the worst to blight. LATER: Bartlett, Howell, Garber, Kieffer, most profitable. Garber **best and handsomest** of its class—earlier than Kieffer, better quality, makes **best canned fruit or preserves.** Bears young and abundantly; so far has shown no blight.—Pres't E. A. RIEHL. Immensely productive; bears at 3 years. Counted 23 pears on 25 inches of an inch-thick branch. **Yellow as an orange**, larger than Kieffer, better quality—quince flavor; a month earlier. Grows upright, like poplar; heavy, dark green, glittering foliage. Worth planting for its beauty alone, if it bore neither flower nor fruit.

LATER: Again a fine crop of handsome Garbers. Tree a perfect beauty, has never shown a sign of blight, the most rapid grower on my place. Le Conte, budded on it, has blighted and been sawed off, while the main Garber tree **shows not a sign of disease.** LATER: Will soon come to the front, because of large size, good quality, excellence for canning and preserving. My Garbers sold for \$4 a bushel, others only \$2. . .

LATER: The **only perfect pears** on my place this year,—truly fine; wish I had a thousand trees. . .
LATER, 1897: I introduced Garber into Mo. Strong grower, young and regular bearer; large, sometimes weigh **one pound each.** Not 1st-class to eat fresh, but **superb to can or preserve.**—Judge S. MILLER.

HOWELL.—A grand and beautiful pear, its value underestimated. Large, pale waxy yellow, often with fine red cheek; juicy, melting, sweet. St'd or Dwf—especially fine and profitable as a dwarf. FM. NCS.

III. Hort. Soc.: One of the **most profitable** pears I ever had on my place.—Pres't E. A. RIEHL. Wish to corroborate what Mr. Riehl says of Howell. No trouble to sell it on the markets at a good price.—Sec'y H. M. DUNLAP.

Tenn. Exp. St'n: A vigorous grower; made the best showing. An excellent variety. Valuable for market.



St'd Pear, 1-yr.-3-yr. Roots

STARK
TREES



KIEFFER, 3 YR.

GARBER, 3 YR.

AN AVENUE OF
STARK
KIEFFER AND GARBER

KIEFFER.—The Ben Davis among pears—no more, no less. Wonderful cropper; 4-yr. trees have yielded 3 bu. each of perfect fruit. Demand for trees is something unprecedented. It has paid, and profit is a wonderful factor in deciding many disputed points. Excellent for canning, but should not be used until weeks after gathered—then, «good as Bartlett.» Keeps easily till midwinter. FM. NCS.

Remarkable—the only pear exhibited freely on Phila. fruit stands **during midwinter** is Kieffer. In abundance everywhere. Whatever critics may say, **Somebody Likes Them.** They SELL. Another good point—like the apple, they do not rot easily by handling—as do other pears. Have eaten them equal in luscious richness to any pear I ever ate. . . . **the most wonderful production of the age.**—Prof. THOS. MEEHAN, Ed. Meehan's Monthly.

Has Never Blighted with me; to-day the most popular pear; everybody planting for profit should set it largely. More Kieffer trees now in commercial orchards than any other. Among pears what Ben Davis is among apples. I recommended it from the start; have caused thousands of trees to be planted.—Judge SAM'L MILLER, 1897.

Sold at Home, entire crop from 1000 trees Stark Kieffer; could have sold 1000 bu. more.—M. A. ARTH'R, Mo. **Best and largest** fruit ever raised here, I grew from Stark trees; one Kieffer weighed 2 pounds.—J. M. HICKS, Ark. **Second Summer**, Stark Kieffer all bearing. Attract much attention, bearing so young.—W. C. MARTEN, Ill. **Gathered 5 bu. pears** from 50 Bartlett; my large Kieffer orchard averaged 5 bu. a tree.—A. LONG, St. Louis, Co., Mo.

Others shrink with dismay when Kieffer is named; indeed, the matter might well resolve itself into—

Much Ado About Nothing, A Comedy of Errors, As You Like it, or What You Will, but—«Richard's himself» and will be long years to come.

Mo. Hort. Soc., 1897: «Is Pear Growing Profitable?» was next discussed. B. F. SMITH: Will be more profitable in future, as Cal. is cutting out many pear orchards because of excessive freight charges, and people are using more pears. Recommend Seckel, Duchess, Kieffer, Anjou, . . . Maj. HOLINGER: Can grow more Kieffer pears to the acre than apples, and with greater ease. J. A. DURKES: Kieffer and Garber are becoming very popular. Rank growers and must be headed back well to force sturdy growth. Thinning is important. Pears can be grown cheaply as apples, bring twice the money. Clay soil is best, if not too sticky. Sandy soil least desirable.

Ill. Hort. Soc.: Wonderfully fast grower; in spring I cut back each year's growth about one-half. When trees reach bearing age, have good strong limbs to bear the fruit without breaking; otherwise limbs are too long and slender and will break. Was formerly prejudiced against Kieffer, but now very much pleased. Good bearer, fruit hangs well and comes when pears are scarce. Withstands even San Jose scale; are not infested in my orchard, tho' mixed in with trees which came covered with scale from same nursery at same time.—J. W. STANTON. **85-Acre Kieffer Orchard,** the why and how. Two years ago decided to plant a commercial orchard, Kieffer exclusively. Planting 85 acres in a solid block was looked upon as a risky enterprise. Not my intention to go into the retail trade, hence a succession of fruit is just what I do not want. My aim is to sell entire crop in a lump, or pack and ship; by having a quantity hope to reach markets and get prices smaller orchardists cannot reach or surpass. Planted 11,360 trees, and only 3 died. Visited the nursery, placed order, trees to be 4 to 6 ft. whips and Dug in Fall and Wintered in a frost-proof storage house, to be shipped in spring on order. . . .

Holes were dug in fall, 18 in. square and deep, 10 ft. north and south and 20 ft. east and west. . . .

Trees were all cut back to 2 ft., and the land cultivated in corn; made a strong, luxuriant growth, some limbs 4 ft. My success due to good trees and handling so roots were kept moist.—W. W. STEVENS, Wash. Co., Ind. **Began Bearing** when 3 years planted; 4th year, some produced 1½ bu.; 5th year, 2½ and 3 bu. One in my yard, a 1-yr. switch planted 5 years, is over 18 ft. high, and 4 inches thick, 2 ft. above ground, bore 325 pears of which 50 made half bu. Lot, 50 bu. from 13 trees, 7 to 10 yrs. old, sold to merchants for \$2.50 per bu.—Rural World.

O. Hort. Soc.: Planted 4000 pears; too many sorts. Find more money in Kieffer than any other. Prettiest pear I ever saw. Pears have paid better than other tree fruits in spite of blight—have 32 yrs' experience. Pack firm, ship to large city, sell wholesale. Never cultivate the st'd pear after it bears; keep in clover.—N. OHMER.

Pioneers in Planting Kieffer, were Steele Bros., pear growers in the Hudson valley, N. Y. They shipped 500 bbls. Kieffer, all to the N. Y. market where they sold at a handsome profit. Will plant 1500 more Kieffer, spring '98. **Cross Between the Quince and Pear,** would be regarded as a decided scientific advance. Had anyone made such a cross with Kieffer as the result, he would, with excellent reason, regard it as remarkable—as all he could have hoped for. Certain it is that, as a canned fruit it has no superior.—Rural New Yorker, Dec. 4, '97.

Can be Kept all winter, marketed any time. Millions of bushels can be sold.—Pres't PARKER EARLE. **Enthusiasm** for Kieffer, is too mild a term to express the feeling here.—J. R. EGGLESTON, Miss.

STARK
NURSERY

Tex. Ben Davis and Kieffer a success. Col. Ross set Kieffer 12 years ago; got a paying crop before he sold out to Mr. Folkes—one crop paid for the place. Sold 1500 bus. pears last fall, over 900 this fall. Nearly all Kieffer. Planted Le Conte but nearly all blighted. Lately saw Kieffer in piles between rows—a sight to behold. Were all trees Kieffer the owner would be near enough the Klondike. . . . Craven Orchard of 50 acres, apples, peaches, plums, a sight from June till Nov. He, like A. H. Sherley, of Denison, didn't pay any attention to people who said, «Tex. too dry to grow apples.» but planted 50 or more sorts. Has taken 1st premium at three last meetings Tex. Hort. Soc. Tex. apples are fine flavored if mellowed up in a cellar.—Tex. Farm & Ranch.

Idaho.—Fruit excellent, but is ill shaped; tree HARDY but a bad blighter; see under Shackelford, page 33. FRUIT good size, but irregular—shape of an apple with the ends reversed. Flavor pleasant, somewhat like L. B. Jersey, perhaps better. The greatest objection, it blights too easily.—Prof. G. H. FRENCH, So. Ill. University.

A fine fruit, but tree blights terribly and is condemned by almost all who have tried it.—Prof. VAN DEMAN. **Mo. Hort. Soc., 1896:** Pear orchard contained but one Idaho tree—which blighted and died. Soon, all the other trees died; then the blight spread to an apple orchard. All agreed Idaho blights so as to be worthless.

JAPAN SELECT.—Chosen as the finest and most fruitful among a large collection of Japan pears, bearing in our nursery rows. Young and wondrous cropper; STANDARD trees only 18 months from bud, fruit in nursery rows. Large, flat shape; lacks flavor, but liked for canning and preserving. KM. NCS.

Wonderful to bear. Gathered 18 pears last year, the same season tree was planted, and 28 this year.—T. M. CARROLL. **Most floriferous and fruitful**; bloom and bear fruit the 2d year, and the 3d and 4th years the trees are **Worthy a Place as Ornamentals**, both for their bloom and round, long-stemmed fruit—valued for canning.—Rural N.-Y. In Iowa thrives with great luxuriance. Fruits very full at an early age; in southern half of Ia., it will give much satisfaction. Handsome, unique and really good for culinary use; refreshing for dessert.—Prof. BUDD.

KING KARL.—A German seedling of Clairgeau,—strongly resembling in looks; more prolific, better quality. “Tree very prolific; fruit very fine and beautiful. Juicy, excellent. Oct.-Nov.” St'd, Dw'f. FM. NCS.

This and Triumph are singularly young bearers. In France, fall '96, we saw HUNDREDS of dwarf trees in nursery rows, bearing at only 18 months from bud. King Karl, one to three strikingly fine large Clairgeau-like pears on a tree. Triumph, still more precocious; we counted 10 large perfect pears on one little nursery tree, while whole rows were loaded, half dozen or so to a tree. No other kinds in the same blocks were bearing at all,—including Duchess and other well known young bearers.

KOONCE. Early, handsome, good—tender, juicy, melting, with a pleasant flavor. Not of high quality, but sure and dependable for bushels of pears, that will sell well—eat well. Does not rot at core. No blight. Frost-proof—bore in '94, when all others in same orchard were killed, St'd, Dw'f. FM. NCS.

III. Exp. St'n: Koonce fruited on 3-yr. grafts; quality better than Lawson—good as Osband Summer.—J. WEBSTER.

KRULL.—A native Mo. seedling. Keeps till April in barrels just like apples. Lemon yellow, with a delicate bloom, giving it a rich appearance; skin thick and strong. Flesh firm until fully ripe, when it becomes juicy, melting, rich, sweet. Old trees, of immense size—nearly two feet in diameter—are still healthy, free from blight, productive; some seasons bear 25 bushels each. St'd, Dw'f. FM. NCS.

Best Winter Pear I have seen; very much better than Lawrence, and a very late keeper.—Prof. VAN DEMAN.

The Farmer Who Can put pears on his Christmas dinner table deserves well of his wife and children.—Rural N.-Y.

LADY CLAPP.—Recommended by Ellwanger & Barry, as: “A large, very handsome pear. Clean, smooth skin, beautiful yellow; size and fine color the same as Bartlett. A good sort to succeed that variety.

Very juicy; quality first rate. A splendid pear and a decided acquisition.” Fine grower. FM. NCS.

Am. Inst. Fair, '97: For beauty was very noticeable. A fine, smooth, yellow pear, very much the style of Bartlett.

LAWRENCE.—Long-lived, rarely blights. Sweet and good—not best. Always fair—no scab. F. NC. One of the best of all the winter early pears.—Prof. H. E. VAN DEMAN, in Rural New-Yorker.

Mo. Hort. Soc.: One of the very best early winter pears east; but here only a medium fall variety.—Judge MILLER.

Le Conte.—Has paid south, not quite hardy further north; blighter. Garber largely supersedes it.

Commission Men request me to caution my readers not to plant Le Conte, as it is a failure in market, shipped from the south. Le Conte and E'y Harvest, utterly worthless here. Le Conte is of fair quality if you can get it ripe before it rots at core. I was first to fruit Le Conte here in Mo.; 11 trees, large enough to bear, all blighted to death in two years, and branches budded on Garber also blighted—Garber exempt.—Judge S. MILLER.

III. Hort. Soc.: Large, pretty good, but difficult to get just right; if picked a little too green, will not ripen at all; if left a little too long, will rot at core. Blights worse than anything else on the place.—Pres't E. A. RIEHL.

LINCOLN.—Another western seedling of extreme hardiness, undoubted value—described below. FM. NNCS. A PEAR of unusual merit.—A. W. SIAS, Minn. Ahead of Bartlett in appearance and flavor.—Judge S. MILLER.

III. Hort. Soc.: Superior to Bartlett in flavor.—A. C. HAMMOND. **O. Hort. Soc.:** Free from blight, hardy, large, excellent. Better than had expected; smooth, rich yellow, averaged larger and longer than Howell. Flavor excellent—prefer it to Bartlett. Picked Sept. 8, kept 2 weeks before used. Tree seems healthy, free from blight. . . . A good pear for market or home, especially as it comes after Bartlett and Howell.—Prof. G. H. FRENCH, So. Ill. Univ.

Original tree 7 miles west of Lincoln, Ill. The seed was brought from Ohio and planted spring 1835,—tree now 63 years old. Has not blighted nor winter-killed; hardy as an oak. Has borne annual crops for fifty years, of large, golden yellow, delicious fruit—better than Bartlett. Has sold readily at \$3 to \$4 per bu. . . .

It is surprising this wonderful pear has not been brought into notice. Pears can be grown as plentiful as apples, if nurseries will propagate hardy kinds, Lincoln, Birkett, Kieffer and others known to be hardy. Grow Lincoln by the million so they can be planted for yard, street and park trees, planted all along our public roads, around and across farms for living fence posts, be set on both sides of railroads. . . . Lincoln pear may yet become a national fruit, and be found worthy a place on markets of Europe.—A. H. GASTON, Ill. Hort. Soc.

Lincoln Coreless.—Not coreless, not good—not worth planting. Condemned by R. N.-Y., E. A. Riehl et al. HAS BEEN pushed by some nurserymen, but is too poor in quality. Let it alone.—Prof. VAN DEMAN.

L. B. JERSEY.—Dwarfs bear heavily—a single cluster has contained 54 good pears. St'd, Dw'f. FM. NCS. DOES absolutely best; dwarfs always loaded with immense crops of smooth, finely flavored fruit.—Rural N.-Y.

RUTTER.—Has fruited for us many years without a failure. Bears in 3 years, $\frac{1}{2}$ bushel of fine pears to a tree; productive as Kieffer, surer bearer—full when Kieffer killed in bud. A thousand times more valuable than Idaho or Lincoln Coreless—Idaho blights to death, Lincoln Coreless too poor to eat. FM. NCS. **One tree** gave more pears than 400 trees of other sorts planted same time. Lasts thro' Oct.—C. S. MACE, Ill. Exp. St'n. **Kan. Hort. Soc.:** Tender, juicy, rich—a substantial food, satisfying hunger. A valuable market pear. GARBER and Kieffer pay. Rutter finer than any other. Pays Better. Surer bearer than apples.—A. H. GRIESA. **Extremely rare** that a seed is found in Rutter. Great bearer—almost as many pears as leaves. Needs thinning, then flavor is delicious.—Meehan's Monthly.

SECKEL.—Small, high flavor. Little blight; original tree, nearly 100 years old, still bears. FM. NCS.

III. Hort. Soc.: As near blight proof as any pear known. Every farmer should plant at least half a dozen. It delights in warm, rich soil; does its best where rank growing sorts might blight to death.—See. A. C. HAMMOND.

SHELDON.—Melting, rich, delicious—perfect bags of the richest, most deliciously satisfying juice. F. NC. Finest table pear in the world. Even the smallest pears are always delicious. Large, handsome.—E. P. POWELL.

PEARS like loamy land, a little clayey; but Sheldon grows and fruits admirably in rich sandy soil.—Gardening.

TRIUMPH.—Described as follows: “Very vigorous and very prolific. Fruit resembles Duchess, but is superior to it in being finer grained, and in keeping till Jan. Is highly recommended. Nov.-Jan.”

See under King Karl—than which this is even more promising. St'd, Dw'f. FM. NCS.

TYSON.—A “Summer Seckel”—beautiful, of fine texture, buttery, melting, juicy, perfumed; very sweet.

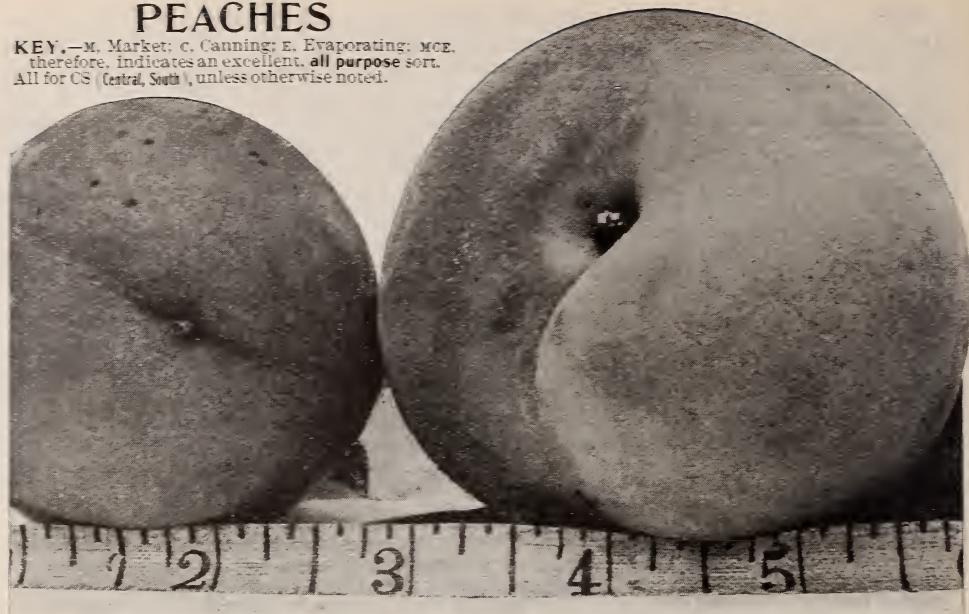
Hardy, long lived, no blight—28-year-old STANDARD trees have never failed. Head low. FM. NCS. No early pear equals Tyson. Great bearer; bears young if headed low, as all pears should be.—E. P. POWELL. N. Y. Kan. Hort. Soc.: Most hardy and begins to ripen here July 25; ALMOST AS GOOD AS SECKEL. Sells well.—B. F. SMITH.

III. Hort. Soc.: Next to Howell, smaller, but that is the only respect in which Tyson is inferior. Never blights. Howell has always done well. Tyson is a fine early pear. Kieffer unsurpassed for canning.—E. A. REIDL.

WILDER EARLY.—A delicious early pear. Tree very hardy, reliable bearer; so far no blight. FM. NCS.

PEACHES

KEY.—*x*, Market; *c*, Canning; *e*, Evaporating; *MCE*, therefore, indicates an excellent, **all purpose sort**. All for CS (Central, South), unless otherwise noted.



CHAMPION (NEARLY RIPE) AND **ALTON--THE LATTER HARDIER EARLIER LARGER MUCH HIGHER COLORED**

ALTON (Minnie, of Tex.)—There being another Minnie (of Mich.), this is now called Alton—where it has given more and better crops than any other peach. At Mich. Exp. St'n. 1895, bore 9 times as much as Mt. Rose, yet was 15% larger; in '96, productiveness 10—ranking perfect. MCE. NCS.

Prof. Munson says: «A magnificent, white flesh, red cheek free. Resembles Amelia, but BETTER.» Best Peach of its Season—Aug. 1 to 10. Very hairy, immensely productive; notwithstanding the heavy crops it matures, is always of good size. Best new peach; and, strange to say, nobody has pushed it.—Prest E. A. Field, Ill. later, Aug. 16, '97: Rec'd Alton some years ago from a friend who praised it very much. Has given me more and better crops since I've had it than any other peach on the place. I endorse it without Reserve.—E. A. Field. Have fruited Alton 5 years, and there is nothing in So. Ill. that will bear ANNUALLY such large crops of fine shaped, large, beautiful peaches. Rec'd it from Tex. with a dozen other new varieties, including the then new Elberta,—none of which proved exceptionally fine but Alton and Elberta. Tex. Exp. St'n: Ripe June 27th—4 days before Mt. Rose. Tree vigorous, productive. A valuable peach.—Prof. Price. Mich. Exp. St'n, '96: Of 216 kinds, 63 ripened in Aug.—only 13 of which ranked 9 to 10 in productiveness. . . Alex. R. S: Bequett Free, 10; Bishop E'y, 7; Brandywine Prize, 1; Chairs Choice, 8; Globe, 5; Brigdon, 6; Capt. Ede, 7; Champion, 7 (quality, 10; E'y Rivers, 10; Hill Chili, 9; Chinese Clg, 2; Crosby, 8; Diamond, 5; Elberta, 8; Fox Sdg., 7; Future Gt, 6; Gold Drop, 7; Heath Clg, 4; Stark Heath, 6; Mammoth Heath, 5; Hynes Surprise, 8; Kalamazoo, 9; Lemon Free, 3; Lewis, 8; McColister, 9; Milhizer, 1; MINNIE (of Tex.), 10; Minnie (of Mich.), 1; Morris White, 6; McKeitt, 1; N. Am. Apricot, 9; Newington, 3; New Prolific, 1; Oldmixon Free, 5; Oriole Clg, 1; Ostrander, 7; Red Cheek Mel, 5; Salway, 6; Shiple, 8; Smock, 4; Beers Smock, 8; Smock (Gearly Hold-on), 10; Stevens Rarericpe, 7; Wager, 4; Walker, 6; Willett, 1; Worth, 5; Yet. St. John, 6.—Bulletin 143, by Prest T. T. Lyon.

ALEXANDER.—Early semi-clg, for 20 yrs. a leader; will likely soon drop out for Eureka and others. M. Amelia.—White and red; juicy, melting, high flavor. An excellent early peach, but too tender to ship. F.

AMELIA BERTA.—Large, yellow freestones of exquisite flavor, high color—sun-kissed beauties. . .

A cross from Amelia and Elberta. Size of Elberta, deeper red; ripe with Amelia. Ships, sells. MCE Combines good qualities of Elberta with the early ripening of Amelia.—World's Fair Supt of Pomology Chas. Wright, Del.

BELLE of GA.—Earlier, REDDER, than Fam. Fav.; latter is earlier than Chinese Free, Thurber. MCE. NCS Grand Market Peach; large as Elberta, white, with red cheek. These two stand first in N. Y. markets for quality and price. An Ariz. grower saw Belle ripening, saw the market returns—then wanted 100,000 trees.—E. W. Rumph, Ga. «Just Fills the Bill» as a market variety to come in ahead of Elberta.—Hale Co. Orchard Co., Ga.

Our crop of Belle last year, the finest peaches I ever saw. Colors best on high, rather thin clay soil.—Prof. F. S. Earle.

BEQUETT FREE.—Sure bearer, even at Springfield, Ill.—where most sorts fail. Tested for years there, in Exp. orchard of Benj. Buckman, who writes us: «A VERY FINE peach here for either home or market.»

Mr. Ross, Ill.: «In '95, Bequett netted \$10 a tree; people here wild for more trees.» MCE. NCS.

A Remarkable Peach. Ripe after Oldmixon, but for market superior to any other white flesh kind. Certain and heavy bearer. Fruit all large. Among white flesh kinds, what Elberta is to yellow peaches.—J. W. Kerr, Md. Invariably took Bequett when I wanted a fine one to eat, or a Delicious Dish of peaches and cream; juiciest freestone I ever saw, but one of my best shippers. Resembles Family Fav., but larger, better.—S. W. Gilbert, Mo. Hort. Soc.

BISHOP E'Y.—From Kan., dozen years ago; widely tested; sure, prolific. Earlier, FINER, than Mt. Rose. M.

LARGER than Mt. Rose, week earlier, finer every way. Nearly equal to Connet E'y, but of a different type.—Supt Chas. Wright.

Bokara No. 3.—In wood and fruit much like Crosby; larger, not so flat, not so good; ripens later. F.

Proved tender here, a little west of Des Moines, so I discarded it in 1894.—W. J. Graham, Dallas, Okla.

CAPT. EDE.—Large, yellow, free; good cropper; very fine, even when loaded with fruit. Ships well. MCE. In Chicago, brings highest prices going.—E. A. Field, Ill. A No. 1; right in line with Elberta; rots less.—G. W. Elliott, Ill.

CARMAN.—The best kind to follow Mamie Ross; of the same type, perhaps finer than that grand peach. PM.

Ripe a few days after Mamie Ross; BETTER. Five full crops in 5 years; free from rot.—J. Stuberack, introducer, Tex. '97.

CHAMPION.—Delicious quality—none better. Rosy cheek and creamy white; lacks high color. MCE.

Mich. Exp. St'n: Beautiful; of 63 kinds ripe in Aug., only Champion graded as high as 10 in quality.—Prest T. T. Lyon.

King of early market varieties here, the best peach for the season yet introduced.—Dr. J. T. Whitaker, Tex., Aug. 7, 1897.

CONNET E'Y.—«Merits all you can say in its favor,» writes the originator, Rev. A. Connet, now of Okla. I. F.M. Twin sister to Elberta. Very large; white, red; good, productive, not apt to rot; nearly week ahead Mt. Rose.—(Chas. Wright, Del. Mo. Exp. St'n: Many growers think Mt. Rose the earliest peach sufficiently free from rot to be profitable. At this St'n Connet E'Y is a few days earlier, fruits heavily, is of good quality, not inclined to rot.—Prof. J. C. Whitten.

CRAWFORD E'Y Improved (true Mary Choice).—Large, yellow, blush; a beauty. Excels Crawford E'Y, Reeves Fav., and others of this family; all are shy, particularly on sandy soils—best on clay. MCE. Exceptionally fine,—not the same as N. J. Mary Choice. Like Reeves, but bears better with age.—J. W. Kerr, Md.

OF SAME season but in Western N. Y. surpasses Crawford E'Y in quality, hardness, full bearing.—Am. Gardening.

Olden Fruit Co.: Our best PAYERS are St. John, Mt. Rose, Fairly Fav., Reeves Fav., Elberta, Gold Dust, Piequet Late, Salway. First early good one is St. John. Mt. Rose is fine. Fam. Fav. very profitable. Reeves Fav. and Crawford E'Y ripen together and, **9 cases in 10, Reeves is called C. E'Y** in nurseries and market; C. E'Y is good, but 2d to Reeves. Elberta, best of its season. Gold Dust, best cling peach have ever seen. Piequet Late, Sal'way, are fine. Dropped Foster because shy, tender to ship, ripens too close to Reeves. C. Late, Wheatland-Susquehanna, good, but shy. Stevens Rarereipe, too small. Levy (Henrietta), too tender.—J. C. Evans, Pres't Mo. Hort. Soc.

CRAWFORD LATE Improved (Chairs Choice).—C. Late, Brandywine (Prize), Globe, etc., of the C. Late class, are similar; but Chairs few days later, **hardier, surer**; \$1000 was paid for the original tree. MCE.

III. Exp. St'n: Large, very handsome; yellow, bright red; luscious, sweet, very high quality.—Pres't T. F. Goodrich. Fruited at Alton, Centralia and Cobden, Ill. Vigorous, large, and of the highest quality; Sept. 15.—Pres't E. A. Riehl. Handsomest Peach in 100 sorts. Has no superior in quality, of largest size; for profit without a rival.—H. Lutts, N. Y. OF THE Crawford Late type, but larger, much more hardy, better bearer; superior every way.—Sup'r Chas. Wright, Del.

Leads every variety of the Crawford Late family in this state; AWAY AHEAD of Globe in all respects.—C. M. Peters, Md.

Crosby.—Dull yellow, woolly, unattractive for market; fine for home Crosby Sdlgs., harder still. CE. NCS.

CROSBY SDLGS.—Grown from Crosby seed, these will bear further north than any budded kinds. NCS. Crosby seedling, 6-yrs. old, bore 2 bu.; reproduced true. . . . A boon to us here, 100 miles west St. Louis, where we get about one crop in 3 or 4 years. Crosby now ripe, Sept. 1, its 3d successive crop. Shall plant more.—Judge S. Miller.

ELBERTA SDLGS.—From Elberta seed; as Elbertas sell high, shipped fresh, seed are costly. Every tree should bear a good sort, some, perhaps, kinds of surpassing excellence, better than any yet known. NCS.

A good thing, as Elberta type of peaches largely come true. The hardest kind to grow seedlings from is Crosby.—J. H. Hale, Conn.

In Mich., a grower has for years planted seedling peach orchards from selected seed; he now has some thousands of trees and the fruit passes readily among experts as that of budded trees.—Pres't Lyon.

SELECT SDLGS.—Grown from cross-pollinated seed of select budded sorts; no common peaches near. NCS.

SEND you a peach produced by one of your Select Sdlgs. bought 3 years ago; fine, very valuable.—F. Barnes, Buchanan Co., Mo. SELECT Sdlgs., which you sent us complimentary, are bearing very fine peaches; we want more.—Walker & Bothwell, Jeff. Co., Neb.

Orchard of 500 select sdlg., 5-yr. trees, bearing 2d crop; plan to extend the plant considerably. Peach orchards of value can be thus grown, adapted to the rigorous climate of the northern edge of the peach belt.—Albert Stoddard, Fremont Co., Iowa.

Two GROWERS here had wagon loads of fine select sdlg. peaches. Bokara No. 3 did not produce a single specimen.—M. J. Graham, Dallas Co., Ia. Hort. Soc.: Last 5 yrs., grew 5 successive crops of sdlg. peaches. Some are very hardy, late to bloom, uninjured by frost.—Dr. J. I. Bailey, Cedar Co., Ia.

SUMMER SNOW.—PURE trees are sdlgs., always true. We never bud it; others do, impairing its value. Best on clay or thin soils. FC. NCS. Loaded Down again this year. Beautiful snowy white, deliciously sweet.—J. D. Pace, Madison Co., Ill., 1897.

Juciest of peaches, sweetest of juice—full of it. For canning, about perfection.—Wash'n Stark, Windsor, Mo.

E'y Rivers.—«All who plant Rivers will find it a 'back number' in comparison with Mamie Ross.»

E'y Tillotson.—Small, shy; M. Ross large, loaded.

ELBERTA.—Queen of peaches and champion money maker, the grower's joy and buyer's delight. MCE. 35 Cars Elberta Peaches were shipped from McNair Fruit Co's 3-yr. Elberta orchard, 120 acres, from Aug. 6 to 18, 1897. Netted \$2 a bu. above cost of picking, packing, shipping. They are planting 54,000 more peach trees,—giving them 83,000 peach, largely Elberta, 60,000 apple, 11,000 pear, in their two So. Mo. orchards.—West'n Fruit Grower.

EMMA.—Raised by the introducer of Elberta, —who has planted 30,000 Emma trees in his orchard. MCE. VERY large, yellow, light crimson cheek; fine grained, very juicy, best quality—better than Elberta; ripe later; free. Has always sold for extra price over others.—S. H. Rumph, Ga., introducer of Elberta and Emma.

EUREKA.—Ripe 5 to 8 days before Mamie Ross; large, oval; creamy white, red blush—fine. Shown at Nurserymen's Ass'n, St. Louis, June, '97,—conceded a remarkable peach. F.

Foster.—Fine in some places. We paid \$50 for 50 trees, twenty years ago; got just one $\frac{1}{2}$ crop. F. No Value in St. Louis Co., say several of our old customers there, who are experienced peach growers.

Olden Fruit Co.: Dropped Foster out of the list because shy, tender and soft to ship, ripe too close to Reeves Fav.

FUTURE GREAT (Washington free; W. cling, is inferior).—Best of peaches; for high quality our personal favorite for 35 years. No trace of bitter white deposit about the very small pit. MCE.

One of the best peaches. Bears very full, yet is very large, and has proven one of my best payers.—Pres't E. A. Riehl. Very delicious, handsome. Hardy, productive, valuable. Large, yellowish white, deep crimson cheek. Very tender, juicy, melting; with a sweet, rich and luscious flavor. Seed small.—Downing's Fruits and Fruit Trees of America.



STARK
NURSERY

FITZGERALD.—Originated outside the peach belt. Hardy and fine; ripe before Elberta is gone. MCE. NCS. **Mich. Hort. Soc.**: Seems best peach in sight. Of 100 trees set spring '94, nearly all bore 1 to 6 peaches in '95. Set 600 more. In '96 the 100 trees all bore; some had half bu. fine peaches. Ripe about with Elberta, larger than Crawford, even handsomer: small pit—a remarkable combination. . . Last winter gave a good test of hardiness, 15° below zero; tested 200 buds each variety: Fitzgerald, 3 buds dead. Lewis, 15; Elberta 33% and Crawford class 6%, dead. Later, My Elbertas have returned not less than \$3, net, per bu. . . Planted 1000 Fitzgerald last spring: a good thing and want to stock our own orchards.—Pres't R. Merrill.

Canada Ex. Farm: Appears the most valuable new peach I have seen. Ripe after Crawford. E'y; fruit buds more hardy; stone smaller: young trees begin to bear the 2d year. Large, bright yellow with red, best quality.

West'n N. Y. Hort. Soc.: Hardiness in the peach is not well understood. Many varieties are grown commercially that ought not to be: not profitable. As a rule, the Crawford type are not reliable in N. Y.

In Mich. they know more about peaches, and have a fine very hardy in bud: Lewis, Gold Drop, Kalamazoo, etc.

Crosby is good, am pleased: not more hardy than many others. **Fitzgerald**, origin Canada, by comparison with Hill Child and other hardy kinds, stood the test best of all. We must look to the fruit bud.—S. D. Willard, N. Y.

GOLD DUST.—«Best Cling Peach» says Pres't Evans, Olden Fruit Co. Introduced by us 20 odd yrs. ago. Has made a great market record. FINEST quality. Not so large, nor so hardy in bud, as the new Elberta Cling. MC.

Worthy of general cultivation. Yellow, with light to very dark red. Very rich; juicy. A cling of most excellent quality, and ripens when there are no other good yellow clings.—U. S. Pomologist Van Deman, 1891.

An. Pom. Soc., 1897: L. A. Goodman, Sec. Mo. Hort. Soc., spoke of Gold Dust, as an excellent yellow cling; ripe after Elberta. Having seen many acres of it in bearing at Olden, Mo., I can confirm all that Mr. Goodman said in its favor.—Prof. Van Deman's Report An. Pom. Soc., 1897.

Finest Canning Peach I ever saw: excellent shipper.—S. W. Gilbert, Oregon Co., Mo.

Mo. Hort. Soc.: Peaches pay us fully as much as apples: plant Alex., Oldmixon, Elberta, Gold Dust, Salway.—Maj. F. Holsinger.

GREENSBORO.—Sdlg. of Connet E'y; «earlier and larger than Alex'r.» FM. I BELIEVE Greensboro is going to be the leading early peach.—J. Van Lindley, N. Car.

HEATH CL'G, MAMMOTH.—VERY large, creamy white, blushed; fine. MC. A Mo. peach; as fine as any of the Heath strain. Am growing it in preference to Wilkins (Ringold), etc.; excels in size and smooth clean surface.—J. W. Kerr, Md.

STARK HEATH CL'G.—Clear white, blushed; small pit. Tender, melting, juicy; rich, high, most luscious flavor. MC. STARK Heath trees, 5-yr. set, have borne abundant crops of fine large peaches; delicious quality.—Prof. Irl R. Hicks, St. Louis, Mo.

Mich. Exp. St'n: Ripe Oct. 1—13 days later than Ringold (Wilkins), 15% larger, better. Later by 13 days than Mammoth Heath, 25% less productive, 81% better. Three days later than the old Heath Cl'g. 100% more productive.—Bulletin, 143. Finest crop of peaches have ever seen was Stark H., in our orchard in 1868.—C.M. Stark.

Hynes Surprise.—Origin, Mo.; grown it for 18 yrs: scant cropper usually.

ELBERTA CLING.—Raised here from Elberta seed. Finest all round cling we know. Sure, heavy bearer of excellent, beautiful fruit—yellow, rich red cheek; round as an orange, uniformly large. MC. NCS.

KRUMMEL OCT.—Ripe a full week AFTER Salway—altogether finer in size, COLOR, QUALITY, FLAVOR. Without doubt the most profitable late peach—and late ones, if good, are in greatest demand, have least competition, bring the most dollars. N. Waterhout and A. Long, experienced peach growers of St. Louis Co., are both unstinted in their praises of Krummel, its size, quality, appearance, market value. MCE.

We visited several orchards to see the trees in fruit, and can safely say, after seeing Krummel two seasons, that it is not only a FULL cropper, but larger, FINER, JUICIER, than any Salway ever grown here. Brings me More Money than anything else in my orchard. Takes the lead in lateness and size—the largest peach I ever saw; growers here all want trees. Salway ripe here Sept. 28, Krummel, Oct. 5.—N. Waterhout, St. Louis, Co., Mo.

LADY INGOLD.—Resembles Crawford E'y, but BETTER and 10 days EARLIER; often shy like Crawford. MCE. AS EARLY as St. John; a much finer yellow peach; does not rot, is larger, of better color, more prolific.—Chas. Wright, Del.

MATHEWS BEAUTY.—The only new peach, among many fine ones exhibited, which was recommended for dissemination by Ga. Hort. Soc., composed of conservative men, who «know good peaches.» MCE. Of Largest Size and magnificent appearance, just what is wanted for a market peach.—J. D. Hostet, originator of Triumph. As Hardy and thrifty as Elberta, as sure and prolific; larger and better in quality, equally good shipper; 30 days later. Specimens weigh from 16 to 18 oz. each; yellow, streaked red; firm, rich, excellent, etc.—Introducer.

Ga. Hort. Soc., 1898: Of the Smock strain, quality best; large, vinous, juicy, maturity [in Ga.], Aug. 5 to 15.

Ga. Exp. St'n, 1897: Much pleased with this new peach; handsomer and much more highly flavored than Elberta.

MOUNTAIN ROSE.—A great favorite for both home and market. Superior to Lg. E'y York. Often shy; when larger size and, particularly, hardness in fruit bud are important, Alton will displace it. MCE.

OLDMIXON FREE Improved (Mountain Rareri).—Larger, redder, more productive than O. F. MCE. Mich. Exp. St'n: Oldmixon Free ranks highest in quality of all peaches that ripen here in Sept.—Pres't I. I. Lyon.

Over 1200 Baskets of Mt. R. R. from 300 trees; some trees yielded 8 baskets at a picking. . . Oldmixon is so well known it will be hard to convince planters generally that Mt. Rareri is a better peach. Similar to Oldmixon every way, with which it ripens, but is larger, higher colored, more productive, and brings 25% more money. For dollars and cents I don't know its equal.—World's Fair Supt. of Pomology, Chas. Wright, Del.



MAMIE ROSS.—After 7 years' test of this **finest of earlies**, we value it almost as highly as Elberta.

Indeed, had we to decide between them, we should find it hard not to choose Mamie Ross. Under similar conditions, it has always borne more than Elberta—in 1897, **5 bu. a tree**, while Elbertas bore a peck or less, and Rivers and Fam. Fav., a $\frac{1}{4}$ crop; Chairs, Hill Chili, Hynes, Mt. Rose, Stevens R. R., Thurber, Tillotson, Stump, Worth, and others, a doz. or so, and Dwf Japan Blood, Crawford E'y and Late, Foster, Gen. Lee, Globe, Lemon Cl'g, Susquehanna, Wager, and many others, none at all. Pallas was the only other kind **equally full**. FM. NCS.

III. Hort. Soc.: A fine white peach with red cheek; freestone, and a cross of Chinese Cl'g and E'y Rivers. The **best of its season** we have ever fruited; **extra large, hardy**, productive and profitable.—W. E. Gould, So. Ill.

Very Heavy Bearer of fine large fruit, juicy and of fine color; **loaded** again this season.—Weber & Son, Mo., July 2, 1897.

Twice as large and finer every way than E'y Rivers,—with which it ripens. All who plant Rivers will find it a «back number» in comparison. Very large, white with blush, nearly free, an **immense bearer**. Fruited here 2 seasons.—Chas. Wright, Del. Tex. Exp. St'n: Large, light cream, red cheek; very good; half-cling; ripe here June 23. Origin, Dallas, Tex., about 15 years ago. Vigorous, very productive. One of the best early peaches for **table and market** now grown in the state.—Prof. R. H. Price.

PALLAS (Honeydew).—After 7 years' trial proves notably fine. Sure bearer—blooms May 20, after all others; loaded in '97—see under Mamie Ross. Medium, light cream, with red; **VERY sweet**. FC. NCS. SDLG. from Honey; resembles it, but is much larger; melting, rich, vinous; blooms 2 or 3 weeks later.—P. J. Berckmans.

PIQUET LATE.—Very large, yellow and red; rich, sweet, high flavor, superior to Salway. MCE.

Mich. Exp. St'n: In '96, bore **8 times as much** as Salway; 10% smaller; '97, bore $\frac{1}{6}$ less; 10% larger; 4 days earlier.

POOLE FAVORITE.—A truly remarkable yellow free. Equal to Crawford Late, but larger, redder, surer 10 days later. From A. W. Poole, the great Ark. orchardist, who has 7000 Poole Fav. trees in orchard, is planting many more. His greatest money maker, surpassing Elberta. Has the peculiar habit of maturing a few 2d and 3d crop peaches; the writer picked a number of delicious ones, little and big, during a visit, Oct., '97—weeks after main crop was gone. Our stock is from Mr. Poole's bearing trees. MCE. **Best Peach in Ark.** Don't rot; reddens under limbs almost as well as in the sun; average $2\frac{1}{4}$ in. in diameter...

Will give \$500 for one tree of any variety that will prove more profitable, yield more and larger fruit. Three of us are planting 13,000 more Poole Fav. later, Oct. 4, '97: Have 24 Poole Fav. trees that bear as much as 230 Crawford E'y. Bore full in '96, Elberta bore nothing. Ripens evenly and 2 pickings usually clean the trees. Crawford E'y is long in ripening, must be picked over 6 or more times. Does well with less rain than any peach I grow. The large painting [of a fine cluster] was taken in 1892 from a tree which yielded 21 third-bu. boxes of first grade fruit. Netted \$19.65. In '93 same tree netted \$13.65; three fine crops since.—A. W. Poole, Ark.

SALWAY.—Highly prized as a late market peach. Very handsome; large, yellow, red cheek, not juicy. MCE. **Mo. Hort. Soc.:** 7 yrs. ago rec'd from S. W. Gilbert, box Salway—**gems**; right then decided to plant.—Maj. Holsinger.

SEA EAGLE Improved (Aigle de mer, ameliorée).—Famed in France as the finest new peach—the French don't fancy **YELLOW** peaches; less delicious. We saw this variety at 3 places fruiting superbly and it impressed us as being of much value; and the more particularly so, since we knew the old Sea Eagle had proven widely valuable: Tex. Exp. St'n pronouncing it a fine peach there; D. Hay & Son, New Zealand, saying, «A splendid late kind, very large, high flavor; very prolific; best of its season.» MCE.

A **very prolific** late kind, producing fruit of **great beauty** and enormous size—attains a weight of $1\frac{1}{2}$ oz. Does not fail on any soil. Ripens Sept. 20, at a time when there are no other good varieties.—Introducers.

SMOCK (Geary Hold-On).—Best Smock; better and larger than Beers. Yellow, with red blush. MCE. NCS. **Greatly Superior** to Wonderful here. Resembles Beers Smock in fruit and tree; latter no longer popular. Geary averages larger, tree more reliable as to maturity of its crop; hence a more desirable market variety.—J. W. Kerr, Md. Mich. Exp. St'n: Later than Smock by 3 days; larger; better; 25% more productive. Better quality than Beers Smock, 20% more productive. Larger than Wonderful; 20% more productive; 16% better.—Bulletin 143, by I. T. Lyon.

SNEED.—Earliest peach—7 to 10 days ahead of Alex'r, not of same type, but of the valuable Chinese family. Not apt to rot—but plant the extra early varieties in dryest, most sunny locations. FM. NCS. BEGAN ripening here this year May 15; first shipment May 17—**7 days ahead** of Alex'r. Size is good.—J. S. Crooks, Ga. A Success in Ct.; trees rec'd from you 2 years ago, perfectly hardy, healthy, thrifty; fruit large and good for an early peach, very juicy, of brilliant color, and entirely free from rot. Ripe here July 17.—H. L. Fairchild, Fairfield Co., Ct.

TRIUMPH.—Earliest yellow peach so far known; possesses many excellent qualities—noted below. FM. NCS. In Cal., kinds planted in earliest locations, are **Red June**, **best of all** Jap plums, and Triumph peach.—Pac. Rural Press. JUNE buds set spring '96; bore 8 to 12 fine peaches each, '97. In a 2000-tree orchard, ten kinds, Triumph the only sort that matured. A peach fruiting on 18-mo. June buds after 15° below zero, is **Remarkable**.—H. Lutts, Niagara Co., N. Y. Set 100 trees, Jan., 1895. **5 mos. later**, June, '95, picked 75 peaches. June, '96, shipped 60 baskets. May 27 '97, shipped 12 baskets, and about 240 baskets in all this season, from the **100 2-yr. trees**. A few days later than Alex'r, averages larger; yellow flesh, **Red All Over**; will hang a week after fully ripe, and not drop off nor rot. Best shipper known. Good quality. Vigorous grower, free bearer; needs thinning.—J. S. Crooks, Ga., 1897.

Elberta is Queen,—Mamie Ross, Princess Royal.—The Tex. Exp. Station asked leading growers for «a list of 6 peaches, best for table and for shipping.» Elberta received 18 votes; next highest was Mamie Ross, 13 votes. Sned 4, Carman 2, Stump 2, Old Nixon 2, St. John 2, E'y Rivers 1, etc.

Texas Hort. Soc.: A committee provided a 30-acre orchard for the Buckner Orphans' Home. Following is the list of peaches:

Hynes 20, Mamie Ross 250, Bishop 30, Mt. Rose 20, **Elberta 50**, Bequett Free 50, Pie-quet 20, Salway 20, etc.



WORTH.—Origin, Ill., opposite Keokuk, Iowa; introduced by us, tested for 17 years. FINEST yellow free of the entire Crawford E'y-Reeves Fav. type. It's record is unequalled. Deep red cheek—a beauty. MCE. **Much Pleased**, shall push it. Strong, upright grower, good bearer. Differs from Crawford E'y and Reeves Fav.; looks like a smooth skin Elberta; **very fine** every way; large, yellow, fine red cheek, free; resembles Wheatland, week earlier; its season will make this a **valuable variety**, as it comes just ahead of Elberta and is **equal** in appearance and size, of **better color and much better quality**.—Sup't Chas. Wright, Del.

Mich. Exp. St'n: Ripe Aug. 20. No yellow peach was better or larger; large as Brandywine (Prize), 25% more productive, 37½% better, 25 days earlier. Ripe with Brigdon, better, **25% more productive, 45% larger**. More productive than Conklin, 20% larger, 50% better, 4 days earlier. As productive as Crosby, 12½% better, 33½% larger, 26 days earlier. As large as Diamond, 37½% more productive, 37½% better, 26 days earlier. Ripens with E'y Barnard, less productive, 37% larger, 37½% better. Eight days earlier than Capt. Ede, 12½% more productive, 16½% larger, 25% better. **Productive as Elberta, larger, 11 days earlier, 31% better quality.** Ten days later than Foster, better, larger. Larger than Globe, 37½% more productive, 37½% better. 19 days earlier than Gold Drop, 12½% more productive, 18% better, **more than twice as large**. Better than Kalamazoo, 11 days earlier, less productive, 37% larger. Large as Lemon Free, 37 days earlier, 100% better, 125% more productive. 16 days earlier than New Prolific, 12½% better, 16½% larger, **Eight Times as Productive**. Ten days later than Ostrander, 12½% more productive, 25% larger. 11 days earlier than Red Cheek Melocoton, 25% larger, 37½% better. **Twice as productive as Wager, 24 days earlier, 25% larger**. Large as Reeves Fav., more productive, 20% better, 4 days earlier (**8 days earlier in '96**; 2 days after Crawford E'y, 6 days after Foster, 11 days after Yel. St. John). Two days later than Yel. Rareripe, 12½% more productive, **100% larger, 106% better**.—Bulletin 143, by T. T. Lyon.

APRICOTS

SUNRISE.—A hardy Rus'n sdlg, raised by our neighbor, R. K. Smith. Has proven our earliest and **largest hardy apricot**.

Seven successive crops, two when an adjoining peach orchard did not bear a peach. July 27. FM. NNCS.

After fruiting Alex'r, Budd and many other Russians, we have discarded them all for these two improved sorts,—which are sure bearers and much larger and better,—equaling the best foreign apricots. Sunrise is not equal in quality to Superb,—**neither is any other apricot** we have tasted,—but larger, more oval, like St. Ambroise. Photo annexed. BEARING 2d crop, although planted only 3 years. You can not recommend it too highly.—W. E. McFarland, Decatur Co., Ind.

Dept' Agr., Rep. 1895: Medium, velvety, orange yellow; dots minute, pink; skin moderately thick, stone large, oval, free; flesh golden yellow, meaty, tender, juicy; subacid; good. June 27-July 6.—U. S. Pomologist Heiges, later: I believe Sunrise will prove valuable where less hardy kinds fail.

SUPERB.—A hardy sdlg., from Kan., where we saw the old tree when in full fruit,—**delicious!** FM. NNCS. Has produced more fruit, of larger size and better—**most superb**—quality, than **any other**, native or foreign. Best and most constant bearer of 100 sorts. Endorsed by Nurserymen's Convention for its **exquisite quality**. Superb, raising the average in size and **quality** of this excellent fruit, is worthy of extensive cultivation. Some eastern firms would make fortunes with it. Try Superb and grow a **fruit that is fine**.—A. H. Griesa, originator, Exp. Orchards, Kan.

Dept' Agr., Rep. '95: Medium, light salmon; skin thin, tough, tenacious; firm; mild; good. July 1-15.—Prof. Heiges.

HARRIS.—In a garden at Geneva, N. Y., bears well. FM. NCS. Medium, good. Ordinarily, it is very productive.—Prof. L. H. Bailey.

Alexander, Budd and other Russians fruit fairly, but are small. Mo. Hort. Soc.: Russians, Alexis, Alex'r, Catherine, etc., too small, although sold them this year at \$4 per bu.—J. H. Karres, Buchanan Co., Mo. **Bungoume, Shensi**, valueless. **E'y Golden, Royal, Moor-park** and other tender kinds rarely bear except on Pacific Coast.

NEW NURSERY FARM.—Stark Bro's have at last secured for a nursery farm the fine Dr. Hardin tract of 500 acres, just south of our city, overlooking the Miss. River. The location, on the famous gravel road, close to the Burlington tracks, on which 13 trains pass daily, could not be better. Besides, it is a grand stretch of rich upland, underlaid clay, and one of Pike's finest farms, valued by the late Dr. Hardin at \$100,000. Its acquisition by Stark Bro's for growing trees, marks the culmination of many years of continuous advancement in this, their chosen life work.—Louisiana Missouri Press.

A Great Orchard System, aggregating some millions of trees,—perhaps the greatest horticultural enterprise of the world. Stark Bro's hold an interest in over 3000 market orchards, 1000 to 10,000 trees each—70,000 trees in the largest. Orchards from O. and the Va.'s to "where rolls the Oregon." From Wash., Idaho, Mont., to Mich., Wis.; from Ia. and Neb., to Miss. and Tex.

"This is an art which does mend nature," says Shakespeare, in "Winter's Tale," writing of the nurseryman's budding and grafting. Truly, herein lies the real art of the nurseryman; not in producing strawberries, etc. These require no art nor skill to raise, but grow just as the grass grows in the field.

The **Highest Branch** of the nurseryman's art is the right propagation of fruit trees. Almost anyone can buy grafts, plant them and raise apple trees—such as they are. Nor does it require skill to raise strawberry plants, blackberries, etc. But when it comes to propagating apple, pear, plum, cherry and all other fruit trees by budding,—"The art itself is nature."



The REAL Shakespeare, A. D. 1609

This, the "Droeshout" portrait, has the full forehead, reddish hair, etc., of Shakespeare. The "Chandos" portrait, with its earrings, black curly hair, etc., is really that of an Italian engraver!

STARK
AUTUMN

SEA EAGLE IMPROVED

KRUMMEL
OCT.

ELBERTA CLING
Fruit, 1898

... COPYRIGHT 1898 BY STARK BROS

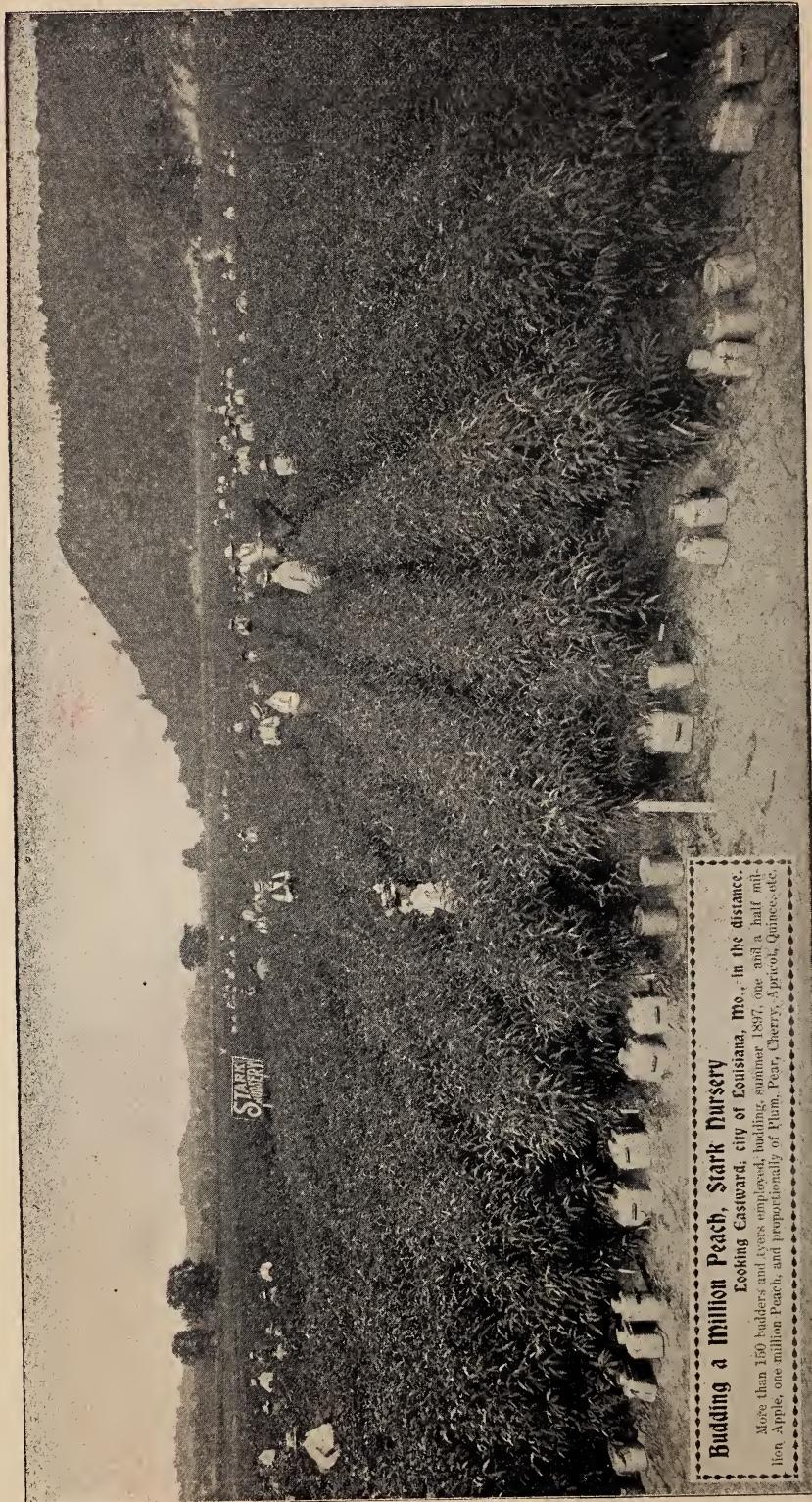
ALL GOOD AND RARE

SURE BEARERS
FULL CROPPERS

MARIE ROSS

POOLE FAVOR

AVON



Budding a Million Peach, Stark Nursery

Looking Eastward; city of Louisiana, Mo., in the distance.

More than 150 badders and flyers employed; budding, summer 1897, one and a half million. Apple, one million Peach, and proportionately of Plum, Pear, Cherry, Apricot, Quince, etc.

We Grow Peach extensively for the great commercial peach regions, where only best trees and best up-to-date market sorts, are wanted and planted. Healthy, hardy, vigorous trees, grown on new land from Ozark Mountain natural peach seed. No Yellows, no Rosette, no San Jose Scale.

PLUMS

ABUNDANCE.—Under this name two (possibly 3) sorts are grown—true Ab'e and the much inferior Berckmans. FM, NCS. A Sight to behold; the branches are wreaths of fruit . . . loaded down. . . . Blessed be Abundance! It is well named.—Rural New-Yorker. **Plums Over 6 in.** around the smallest way.—G. G. Meek, Iowa, Aug., '97. CAN't be beat—Finest Stark Abundance.—W. E. McFarland, Decatur Co., Ind. **Great Crop**—my first day's picking sold for over \$100.—J. E. Storer, Ill. BEEN selling Abundance for 10 days; 41 Stark trees, full crop, finest plums ever seen here; average price \$2.40 per lb.—J. M. Huston, Mo.

AM. EAGLE.—Our largest and earliest of the AMERICANA plums—**hardest** type, embracing De Soto, Stoddard, Wyant, etc.

Very large, dark purplish red; fine. Late bloomer, sure cropper. July 25. FM. NNC. PROVES the **Most Valuable** market plum of the AMERICANA group.—J. W. Kerr, Md., who has the largest collection of native plums in the world—over 250 sorts, 7000 trees.

ARCH DUKE.—« Very best really large plum; dark blue, prolific; hangs late; a shipper. M.

BAYAV GREEN GAGE (Reine Claude).—One of the surest and best in Stark Denver orchards. Greenish yellow; juicy, melting, sugary, FINE. Excellent for canning, jams, etc. Vigorous, often overbears. Late. FM.

Berckmans.—Often called Abundance; later, not so good, tree winter-kills here. See photo.

BRADSHAW.—Large, early, purplish; sells. M. For Market for West'n N. Y., Bradshaw, Coe Gol. Drop, Grand Duke. Of the Japs, the only ones I would recommend for profit are Red June, Abundance, Burbank, Orient (Chase).—Prof. L. H. Bailey. **Unsurpassed** for beauty, productiveness, great hardiness; during 22 years have never known it to cast its foliage prematurely. Its beauty as a market sort is unexcelled.—S. D. Willard, N. Y.

CLYMAN.—Full bearer, good size, red-purple, firm; free. Fine early shipper. July. FM. **Idaho Hort. Soc.**: Good grower, good bearer, good fruit; only plum we can graft.—Prof. H. S. Back.

In Canada.—Czar is earlier, July 29, but not hardy. Clyman, Aug. 4, fine; good bearer.—Allen Bros.

COE GOLDEN DROP.—Splendid late plum. Very large; light yellow; firm, juicy, rich, fine.

Silver Prune, a sdlg. from Coe, resembles it, but better grower, smaller pit, superior shipper, superb drying prune. In Idaho, «Heavy loads fine fruit.» FM.

DAMSON, FREESTONE.—Of all Eup. plums, the hardest and least affected by insects, etc. Best payer in Stark Denver Orchards. Hardy orchard tree, good bearer. Medium, juicy, rich; free; small stone. FM, NNCS. **Freestone Much Better** with me than Shropshire; far more resistant to disease, black knot, leaf blight, etc.—J. W. Kerr, Md.

CLINGSTONE is similar; not free. **FRENCH** and **FARLEIGH**, promising. **Shropshire**, not hardy. **MAJESTIC**, earliest and largest of all; good quality, perfect freestone. FM. NCS. (Same price as French.)

'DE SOTO.—Good; often overbears, then small, poor; won't stand drouth; twig blights. Aug. 5-20. FM. NN. **DIAMOND** (Black D.).—From Eng.; DARK purple, oval, enormous size; sour; mid-season. Fine cropper, shipper. KM. Of Rare Beauty, dark purple with a beautiful bloom; when better known, will be highly regarded.—S. D. Willard, N. Y.

DORIS.—Originated by Luther Burbank, whose description is appended. Tree a very hardy Jap here. F. EXCEEDINGLY vigorous; often bears fruit the 2d year, and afterwards the branches are ropes of fruit which is quite soft, juicy, sweet, good quality. No plum fruits more freely every season; a plum for everybody.—L. Burbank, Cal.

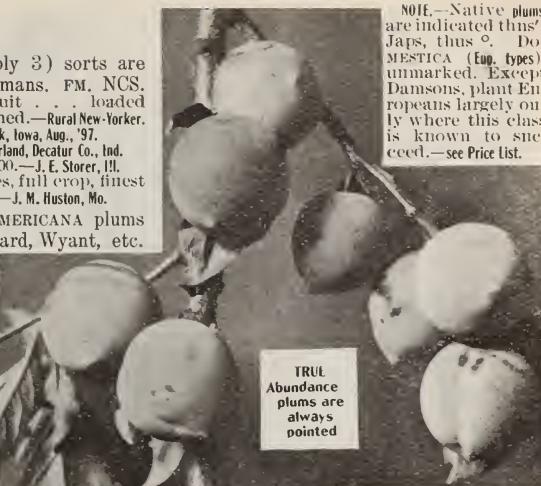
EARLIEST OF ALL

(Yosebe, of some).—Earliest; ripe with late strawberries; fair quality, good for cooking. FM. NNCS.

As a sure bearing Jap, 2d only to Red June. Profitable; drops easily—shake plums onto sheets, and market in qt. berry boxes; WE ADOPT Stark Bros.' name, Earliest of All, for this plum . . . solid red; free.—Prof. Bailey, Cornell.

Mich. Exp. St'n: Notable for extreme earliness; ripe MORE than a week before ANY other. Leading all in earliness; immensely productive.—J. W. Kerr, Md.

NOTE.—Native plums are indicated thus'. Japs, thus °. DOMESTICA (Eng. types), unmarked. Except Damsons, plant Europeanus largely only where this class is known to succeed.—see Price List.

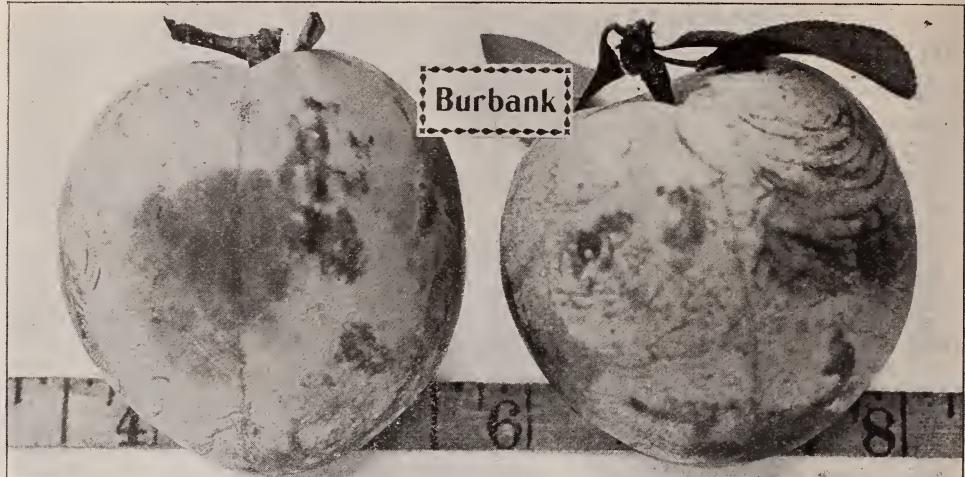


Next in value after the Gold (which is perhaps the most valuable plum in cultivation), comes the Japs; many tested are worthless, some good, **6 are grand**—named in order of value: Red June, Wickson, Orient, Earliest of All, Burbank, Abundance.

Plum rot and early blooming are Japs' faults. Use thin or clay soils.

Red June, Earliest of All, so early, they largely escape the rot; so hardy in bud, were loaded when Abund'ce, Burbank, etc., were all killed, Orient, $\frac{1}{2}$ crop. Whitewashing will retard blooming—see Guide, or Mo. Exp. St'n Bull., 38.





BURBANK.—A GREAT Jap. Bears loads, but more apt to rot than any other one of the «Big 6.» FM. NCS. From Stark Bro's, rec'd Burbank; exact circumference, measured either way, $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Slightly conical, yellow, partially overspread crimson—this does not quite agree with the catalogue descriptions.—Rural New-Yorker.

Idaho Hort. Soc.: Hardier than Abundance, neither so hardy in bud as Red June.—Pres't H. S. Back.

Could sell 1000 bu. here; my Stark Japs, Abundance, Burbank, Orient, finest plums ever saw.—B. L. Ferris Christian Co., Mo.

In Iowa, Red June and Burbank loaded with beautiful fruit, finer than pictures in Stark Fruit Book.—A. J. Masters, Ia.

Ia. Hort. Soc.: New Japs stood 26° below zero, no injury; my success surprises old fossils. . . So far best Japs are

Burbank, Orient, true Abundance. Burbank is fine canned, better than any apricot.—Dr. A. B. Dennis, Linn Co., Iowa.

In Neb., Stark crop orchard set by Mr. Eddy, Burbank are the largest, finest plums ever seen here.—W. O. Norval, Neb.

In O., Stark Burbank bore $1\frac{1}{2}$ bu. a tree; such fine, large plums were never before grown here.—S. A. Wood, Ohio.

Admired and Wondered at by all; am particularly thankful you sent it.—Gen. J. C. Jamison, Adjt Gen'l, Okla. T.

Vt. Hort. Soc., Jan., '98: J. E. Crane spoke highly of Red June, Abundance, Burbank; all hardy and reliable in Vt., comparatively free from black knot and curculio. A. A. Halladay has **made money** with Lombard and Japs.

In Vt., a 3-yr. tree is $8\frac{1}{2}$ ft. high, branches spread 16 ft., trunk is only one ft. to first limbs; in thinning, I cut off $\frac{7}{8}$ of all plums on tree; **picked $2\frac{1}{2}$ bu. of choicest** fruit; averaged 6 in. around, some $6\frac{1}{4}$ inches.—A. A. Halladay, Windham Co., Vt.

In N. Y., tree just $1\frac{1}{4}$ in. in diameter; thinned off $\frac{1}{3}$ and picked $5\frac{1}{2}$ pecks large plums, some over 6 in. around. Orient (Chabot) one of our best; later than Burbank, of better quality.—M. L. Bell, Rockland Co., N. Y., in Am. Garden, Jan., '98.

Productiveness Unequaled by any plum I've ever fruited. A $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. branch, had 40 **perfect** plums. For finest fruit do heavy thinning. Destined to become a most popular plum for canning and market.—S. D. Willard, N. Y.

Pres't of a large N. Y. cannery, says, 40 sorts were tested; 4 out of 5 directors said Burbank was the **best canner**. STARK 2-yr. Burbank tree so full of plums, limbs touch ground; 100 plums on a $\frac{5}{8}$ inch limb.—W. A. Snow, Bates Co., Mo.

FIELD.—Closely resembles the parent Bradshaw; earlier—which adds much to its market value. Aug. 1. M. SDLG. of Bradshaw; 10 days earlier, same large size; darker, not so attractive; withstands severe cold.—S. D. Willard, N.Y.

GAGE, IMPERIAL.—Medium to large, oval, greenish. Rich, juicy, excellent; not profitable for market. F. F.

MO. GREEN GAGE.—Our standard of excellence. Grown in Stark Nursery for 40 years as Green Gage; but the «old Green Gage» is a very weak grower, fruit small; Mo. G. G. strong grower, like Imp'l G.; but a BETTER BEARER, fruit LARGER, more oval, stem stouter, shorter. Quality the VERY best. FM.

STARK GREEN GAGE.—A Mo. G. G. sdlg. raised here from much like that delicious sort, but larger, more productive; not of so high quality—Mo. G. G. being fully equal to old Green Gage, i. e., perfection. FM. VERY excellent large plum; worthy of propagation for its quality and remarkable productiveness.—Prof. Van Deman.

Idaho Hort. Soc.: Good grower, good bearer, good fruit, VERY hardy.—Pres't H. S. Back, 1897.

Nature Abhors self-fertilization, says Darwin; therefore, plant no large blocks of any one single variety.

CONVINCING, UP-TO-DATE.—I do not infer that you have ever had any San Jose scale in your nursery. Indeed, I made the statement in my paper at the recent meeting of the Ind. Hort Soc., that in my inspection of orchards the past summer, I found a number of orchards, trees from Stark Nursery, and in every case they were apparently clean and healthy.—Prof. J. Troop, Indiana State Entomologist, Feb. 1, 1898.



TMGOLD (Trade-Mark).
Plum history records no other such splendid success as Gold has won,—the rest of this Book could be filled with high commendations.

Plant on dry, or thin or clay soils; a choice spot is near doorways, buildings, in yards, etc., where ground is bare or tramped. FM. NNCS.

Plant CLOSE; dwarfish, requires little space. Hardy in tree, bud and blossom, Gold fulfills all Burbank's claims, and more.

Remarkable Keeper; 2 days ago ate the last—kept at least a month; a delicious fruit.—Judge Miller. Gold Plum a Poem, and as good as 'tis beautiful.—Farm Jour'l.

Gold in Colo.—We went up to the beautiful orchard of W. M. Hastings, last week, to see the famous Gold plum in bearing. . . . 2-yr. trees were well loaded with beautiful fruit . . . for flavor and juiciness cannot be surpassed. We took [above] photo. . . . the plum for which Stark Bro's paid \$3000 a few years ago.—Delta (Colo.) Independent.

People Hold Up Their Hands in astonishment, delighted—never saw anything even begin to compare. . . . Gold trees will sell now. . . . I verily believe Gold the grandest and handsomest fruit ever seen by mortal man.

Later: All ask about Gold, saying, "Do you consider it the best plum, do you advise planting it?" YES, I reply, plant it by all means. Wonderful bearer, long keeper, best and handsomest plum grown.—W. M. Hastings, Colo., 1897.

Surely the Right Name for this wonderful plum is Gold. Hangs until one thinks it will never ripen, then a faint crimson blush appears, and in a few days it is delicious. Eaten before ripe, quality is inferior. Placed a dozen Gold in a closet for 3 weeks,—then sound and fresh as when placed there, thus proving it a remarkable keeper and shipper. Will become more favorably known and appreciated as time goes on.—Louis Meyer, Ark., in Rural New-Yorker.

Later, Oct. '97: Gold has proved gold indeed, the best plum; free from rot, very little troubled by the curculio. U. S. Pomologist: Formed a high opinion of Gold in '92; was not surprised to find these of excellent flavor.

Sorry to Say Gold is not coming up with Red June and others; afraid it won't do south. Later: I take it all back; Gold is the grandest plum ever seen; sized up wonderfully fast. More than 100 visitors; all agree Gold's the greatest plum ever seen. Ripe here Aug. 1; the admiration of everyone.—E. V. Dunn, Tarrant Co., Tex. See under Ingram, pg. 24

In Any Market where a handsome, large plum will sell, Gold ought to hold the position of 1st sergeant in the procession. Later, Sept. 27, '97: Gold plums impress me favorably as to quality and color, leaving nothing to be desired in that important relation, for you know color is a most important point in a market fruit. Later, Oct. 4: Samples of Gold rec'd to-day; the color suggests less of Klondike and more of a Glowing Red Sunset.—J. W. Kerr, Md.

Reports on Gold all favorable. . . . J. W. Kerr, the great plum specialist, surprised at its large size, etc. It is a late plum; tree very different in all respects, at all times, from others. . . . Splendor is loaded so thick, plums literally cover branches from sight, other prunes less than half crop. Growers speak very highly of its size, flavor and peculiarly handsome form and color when dried. Later, Aug. 7, '97: Gold averages here, as large as 4 or 5 Wild Goose, grown alongside; produces every year, all trees can hold,—and trees on a poor, dry knoll.—L. Burbank, Cal.

In Conn., Gold fruited full; some were stolen, so I can only send you remnants.—H. L. Fairchild, Fairfield Co., Conn.

In Idaho, etc., loss of about a million trees by a sudden cold snap—Gold unhurt, doing fine.—Pres't H. S. Back, Idaho Hort. Soc.

Stands Wis. Winters like hardest natives. Tip buds bright and green, after 25° below zero.—A. N. Seymour, Dane Co., Wis.

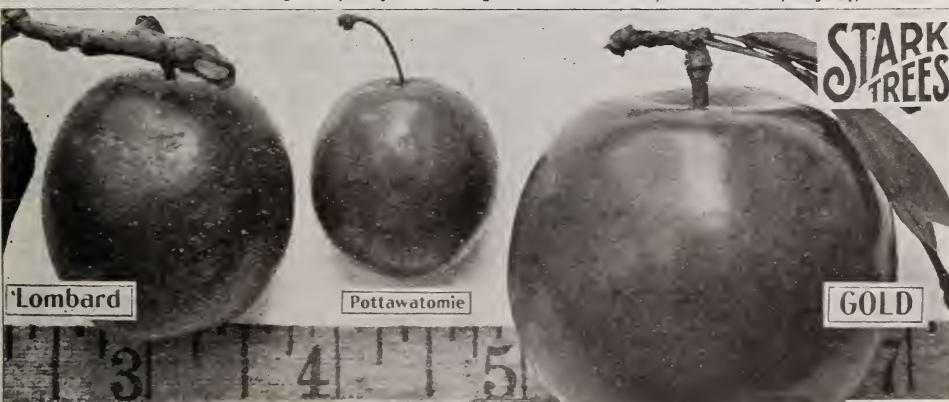
Hardy as Hickory, not bud injured. Gold is all right even north of La Crosse and Oshkosh.—H. Floyd, Winnebago Co., Wis.

In Canada, 21° below zero, alive to very tips.—E. C. Beaman, Durham Co., Ont. At Denver, not hurt a bit by 28° below zero.

In Iowa, 2d year, Gold ripened 24 plums—FINE. Some were stung, yet they ripened.—G. G. Meek, Decatur Co., Iowa.

Gold loaded down, little over one year after set; had to prop limbs. Handsomest plums I've ever seen. Created a sensation in this market. Brought 20¢ a quart. Will plant more.—S. B. Stern, commission merchant, Montgomery, Ala.

GOLD Plums in Colo.; a 2-yr. Tree



A Letter: Haggart & Treadway, Gloversville, N. Y., to S. B. Stern, Montgomery, Ala.: Want to ask you what you think of Gold, and if a good bearer. . . Your opinion will confer a great favor. **Reply:** I put out a lot of Gold plums Jan. '96—they bore so heavily this summer, July, '97, that had to prop the limbs. **Fruit beautiful**, a rich gold color with **deep red blush**; found a ready sale here at **20c a quart**. If you set any, hope you will be as successful as I have been.—S. B. Stern.

[Mrs. Stern was so pleased with Gold, she sent us an admirable painting—see photo.]

Trees, 2-yr. set, bore plums much **More Beautiful** than colored picture you sent me of Gold.—L. J. Heasley, Williamson Co., Ill.

Splendid, tho' hadn't a good chance; too near other trees. Bore a doz. or so plums 2d yr., and the **3d year over half bushel**. People all marvel at it.—H. H. Messenger, Pike Co., Miss.

GERMAN PRUNE (Large G. P., York State, etc.)—We have grown 5 German Prunes, one from Rochester, N. Y., being perhaps least desirable,—fruit small, tree losing its foliage prematurely. FM.

The « York State » is our best strain of German Prune and the ONLY Ger. P. we now grow, either here or at Danville,—shall in future call it simply German Prune. One of the best prunes, a third larger than most of the strains; oval, dark blue with dense bloom; freestone; fine fresh or for preserving, etc. Ripe mid-Sept.; often hangs much later. Much prized; sells at highest prices.

Out of 60 sorts, after careful test, these have proved most satisfactory to me, because of their season and good qualities for long-distance shipments: Field, the Damsons, Burbank, Bayav (R. Claude), German Prune, Grand Duke. Many G. Prunes grown; I have six, all differing, yet the fruit deserves the name of G. Prune.—S. D. Willard, N. Y.

GOLDEN PRUNE.—Large, deep yellow, sweet, rich, exquisite flavor; dries beautifully. **Heavy** bearer. FM. **SILVER**—see under **Coe Gol. Drop**. **ITALIAN** (Fellenberg), similar to the large German Prune. **Tennant** is much like a large Lombard in quality, color and flavor. **Petite** (French), etc.—see L. Coates, under **Splendor**.

SPLENDOR (Trade-Mark).—A superlative prune, raised by the great Burbank. Gold is a plum to plant everywhere, Splendor **only** where German and other prunes, Lombard, etc., succeed. FM.

Has No Rival, as a combined **drying, shipping, market and table plum**. Darker, richer violet purple than Petite, the same firm, rich, sugar flesh, 2 weeks earlier, 3 or 4 times larger, perfect freestone. Will perhaps change the whole prune industry of the world. Later: Am much more convinced than ever of Splendor's superlative value, . . . incomparable firmness, beauty, productiveness, size, exquisite quality, earliness; wonderful keeper, perfect free. MORE THAN 2 wks. ahead of Petite—important! Stupendous bearer, has **No Faults**.—L. Burbank, Cal.

SPLENDOR is much sturdier than Petite, and of better habit. Large, very long in shape; clear, even purple, turns quite black in curing. Cooked, has a slight acid flavor, just enough to give it a zest, but not requiring any sugar. A very pleasing feature is perfect freeness of the pit, which is smaller than that of any other prune. Bears heavily, in clusters, commencing low down in the body of tree. **Prune d'Agen, Robe de Sergent** (so-called), needs fertilization from other varieties to insure full crops. **Petite d'Agen** or « French Prune, » is sweet and cheap; varies very greatly in all our orchards. . . Other prunes are Italian, Tennant, York State, Giant, etc. All of these must go into market as a « German » type of prune, being distinctly acid. They are generally heavy bearers, and should be more planted. . . In none of these, nor in any nursery stock whatever, have I any interest, and therefore can judge impartially.—L. Coates, Sausal Fruit Farm, Napa, Cal., in Cal. Fruit Grower, Dec. 4, 1897.

Later: A large, sweet, prune, such as Splendor, is the item of all others wanted here. . . Splendor fruited in my orchard and is all right; better than samples I've seen. . . You have the BEST prune. Later: There will be more demand for Splendor on the Pacific Coast. The Imperiale and Clairac are too LARGE; run 22 to the lb., dried. Complaints are coming in about their souring, great expense in handling, etc. What will pay best here is a good prune running 30 to 40 and 40 to 50, and **Splendor will do this**. It has a great advantage, also, in its small seed and in being a perfect freestone. Mr. Burbank's claims for this prune are well borne out by the facts.

Trade-Mark Specialties.—Pres't Jno. C. Ferris, Ia. Hort. Soc., says: « It is not the purpose to complain because the originator or introducer of new varieties controls valuable specialties. To abridge this privilege would be to discourage seedling productions. The producer is justified just as an inventor is justified in protecting a valuable invention, or an author in reserving copyright. Horticultural possibilities are infinite. The millions wasted in selection justifies a liberal compensation when a variety is produced possessing special merit, or a combination of good points not possessed by any well known variety. »

Injustice to New Fruits.—Originators of new fruits must spend many years of patient toil and investigation before succeeding in the least degree. And the desirability of new and improved fruits is conceded on all sides. Yet originators are not encouraged as they should be. Feeling this neglect of the public, and finding the originating of new fruits unprofitable, such men as Jacob Moore, and others, are abandoning their life work.—**Fruit-Grower**.



GOLD · Plum,
15 mos. planted.
Photo of
oil painting

GIANT.—Rather an IMMENSE plum, than a prune; excels Pond nearly every way. M. GIANT averages $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 oz. each, sweeter than Pond Sdg., and larger, possibly largest prune known. For market, table, shipping, stands pre-eminent. Great size, beauty; firm, rich, sweet delicious; free. Remarkable keeper; can be shipped **6000 miles**. Fruits in utmost profusion, Sept. later, 1895. Recommend Giant especially as a shipper; shrinks more in drying than Petite, yet in many localities, it is winning a **splendid reputation** as a drying prune. Much pleasanter than the dead, flavorless sweet of Petite.—*Luther Burbank, Cal.* GIANT has fruited here; fully up to expectations. A very large, oval, purple plum of excellent quality; tree, top-worked, seems to be of good habit.—*S. D. Willard, N.Y.*

Goliath.—A large reddish purple plum of 2d quality.

GRAND DUKE.—A «grand» late purple plum from Eng., where it is classed among «Select dessert plums.» Sold in Chicago at \$1.50 to \$1.60 per 20 lb. crate, when others were selling at \$1 or less. Very large, rich purple, free. FM. ONE of the best for market. Larger than Bradshaw; same color. Entirely free from rot.—W. C. Barry, N. Y.
RIPENED Sept. 30; very large, dark purple. Very prolific. Sold at \$1.50 per 10 lb. basket.—Rural N. Y.

On a 9-inch twig, 15 perfect Grand Duke plums were a surprising sight. —A. C. Smith, Washington, Pa.
West'n. Y. Hort. Soc.: So beautiful and marked in appearance as to make it one of the most attractive of all for market; ripe a little in advance of Monarch. Being a slow grower, will not be grown largely by nurserymen.

GUEII.—Large, oval, dark purple, with a thick bloom; free. Very hardy and good in Stark Denver orchards, but not a young bearer. Aug. 25. FM. For Japan plums, I would recommend Abundance and Burbank, and for Eup. varieties, Bradshaw and Gueii.—E. Hoyt, Conn., in Rural N.Y.

HALE.—Cross of Kelsey x Satsuma, by Burbank,—who sent us samples in '93 and again in '95; large, soft, juicy; not much color, resembling Burbank, less red. Strong grower. **Cornell Exp. St'n:** Size and color of Burbank; week or so later. Handsome, red and speckled, parting easily from stem; rather soft and juicy, of good quality, peachy flavor, tending to be sour rather than sweet. Ripe Sept. 8 to 15. One of the most promising of the lesser known kinds.—Prof. I. H. Bailey, Cornell Bulletin, 139, Oct. 1897.

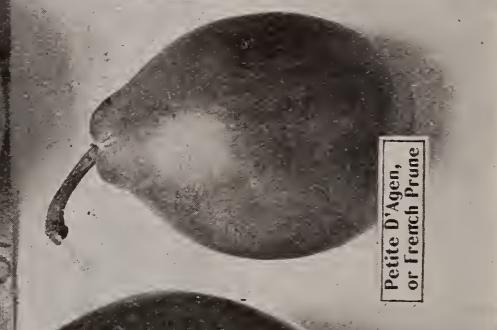
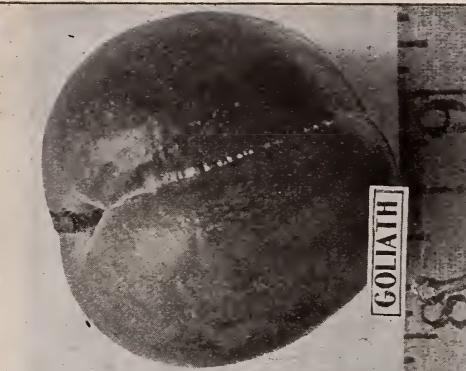
L. H. Bailey, Cornell Bulletin, 139, Oct., 1897.
THE last of the Hale Jay plums ripened in the Rural Grounds Aug. 20; yellowish-green, more green than yellow, without a trace of purple; $5\frac{1}{2}$ in. in circumference; flesh yellow, soft and juicy. Failure to color may have been because somewhat overshadowed by an apple tree.—R.N.Y.

^oKelsey.—Tender north of Tenn.

GOLD PLUMS

being put up with mouth, preparatory to mailing out as No. 6 grows.
In a
back of table are 10 gold

**STARK
NURSERY
Offices**



Juicy.—Strong grower, very hardy, not a young bearer. Nearly as large as Abundance; fair quality. F. HAVE fruited Juicy, so far am disappointed. Judge S. Miller, of your state, writes me that your Gold is of excellent quality.—Dr. A. B. Dennis, Linn Co., Ia., Feb. 3, '98.

ANOTHER of Burbank's raisings. Well named—full of juice, so much so as to surprise one; medium quality.—Am. Gardening, Oct., '97. [More glowingly described under "Life is Real," front page.]

Lincoln.—Dull mottled red; flesh meaty, sweet, without any decided flavor; skin somewhat puckery.

I AM the ORIGINAL introducer of Lincoln; have lost more money on it than any other man. . . E. B. Good, Pa., in R. N. Y.

LOMBARD.—The darling of our grandfathers, which age has not withered. Medium, large if thinned; violet red; juicy, pleasant. Vigorous, well adapted to light soil, inclined to overbear, needs thinning; usually ripe latter half of Aug. FM.

LOMBARD, 7 years set, Stark trees, have borne finely. I want more of same kind.—W. E. Ball, Stafford Co., Kan.

III. Hort. Soc.: Am growing plums for profit. Lombard is my money maker; Wild Goose, German Prune, Coe Gol. Drop, Imp'l Gage, Damson, are among my most profitable. Lombard and German Prune in most demand. Last year over 1000 visitors to my orchard, and Lombard a favorite.—B. J. Wakeman, Iroquois Co., Ill.

MARUNKA (F'y Sweetheart).—The only valuable Russian plum fruited in Stark Denver orchards; earliest of the Eup. type, LARGE, fine; slow grower. FM.

Maru.—Winter kills; poor compared with others; coarse, acid, with hard lumps; good canned. M.

'Milton.—Good early market native; ripe July 1, before Wild Goose; large, red; productive. M. NC.

SOME larger than Wild Goose, heavier bearer here, hangs better, far better shipper, ripens 8 or 10 days earlier; quality rather poor. Valued for its extreme beauty, good size and earliness.—Dr. A. B. Dennis, Linn Co., Ia.

la. Hort. Soc., 1898: For market, near Des Moines, would plant Milton, July 10; Wilder, July 20; Wolf, Aug. 25; Wyant, Sept. 1. . . Plant in rows north and south, rows 18 ft. apart, trees 12 ft. apart in row.—Berryhill & Shaul, Ia.

Md. Hort. Soc., '98: J. W. Kerr has in orchard over 7000 plums. Asked best NATIVES, of Wild Goose type, he named Milton, Chas. Downing, Whitaker, Wild Goose.

MONARCH.—Very large, purplish; freestone, «good as Lombard.» Good bearer; little after Grand Duke. M.

MOORE ARCTIC.—Small, nearly ROUND, fair flavor; great cropper in Stark Denver orchard, no value here. Ripens with Diamond, and after Tragedy, Field, Bradshaw—all larger, finer plums by far. M. QUITE hardy, but foliage drops badly; hence often winter kills; abundant bearer. Small to medium, roundish, purplish-black; rather coarse, juicy, sweet, pleasant. Has little to recommend it.—Prof. L. R. Taft, Mich. Exp. Stn.

Has no valuable commercial qualities here; below the average. Have abandoned its culture.—D. Willard, N. Y.

A FINE, vigorous tree bore 12 gallons in '96, 10 gals. in '97. Larger than Lombard, longer, dark blue, perfect freestone; fine canned, called Moore Arctic. My friend, B. O. Curtis, says M. A. is worthless here, and I see you do not commend it. But this plum [large German Prune] is profitable; it and Lombard the only fine kinds in bearing here; they do bear, fruit large and good. Wild Goose, too poor, Damson too small. Rocky Mt. cherry I fear worthless. . . I like your way of giving faults, also. I might have saved money on Idaho pear, Wineberry, etc., had I taken your advice.—David Emrick, Edgar Co., Ill., Feb. 1, '98.

ORIENT (Bailey, Chabot, Chase; rec'd by us as Red Nagate)—a synonym of Red June, also; identical with Chabot as grown here and eastward; a cling, hence is not the TRUE Chabot, introduced by Mr. Burbank, who says: «A perfect FREESTONE, and loses less in drying than any other Jap.»—However intertwined its names, the plum itself is one of our «Big 6»; one of the «Best 4» with Prof. Bailey—the highest authority on Jap plums. Ripens 1 to 2 weeks after Burbank, averages larger, better, but above all, Surer: Gave us a good $\frac{1}{2}$ crop in '93 and again in '95, when both Burbank and Abundance were killed. FM. NCS.

Cornell Exp. Stn, '96: Size of Burbank, orange, deeply overlaid with cherry red; sweet, excellent cling, later, '97: Certainly deserves all said for it. Productive, handsome, very firm. . . Still adhere to my list of 1895.—**Red June, Abundance, Burbank, Orient (Chase, etc.)**. . . Wickson, should rise to first rank.—Prof. L. H. Bailey.

Mich. Exp. Stn: Beautiful, productive, excellent; larger and of higher quality than most others of its class tested here. Last of Aug.—T. T. Lyon, 1897.

Heavy Bearer, doesn't split, one of the best; succeeds admirably here; very desirable for market.—J. W. Kerr, Md. BOUGHT 1200 Stark trees 2 yrs. ago; you sent 2 complimentary Orient trees, Now loaded with fruit; our finest plums for this climate.—G. R. Fisher, Pueblo Co., Colo., Sept. 1897. BEARING heavy crop, am delighted.—W. E. Kaye, Jeff. Co., Ky. You sent (free) 3 yrs. ago, an Orient; now full of fruit; resembles Burbank, better.—L. Meyer, Hot Springs Co., Ark., Oct., '97 ORIENT got of you perfectly hardy; like its behavior very much.—Dr. A. B. Dennis, Ia. A sight to behold.—E. U. Weissenberger, Tex.

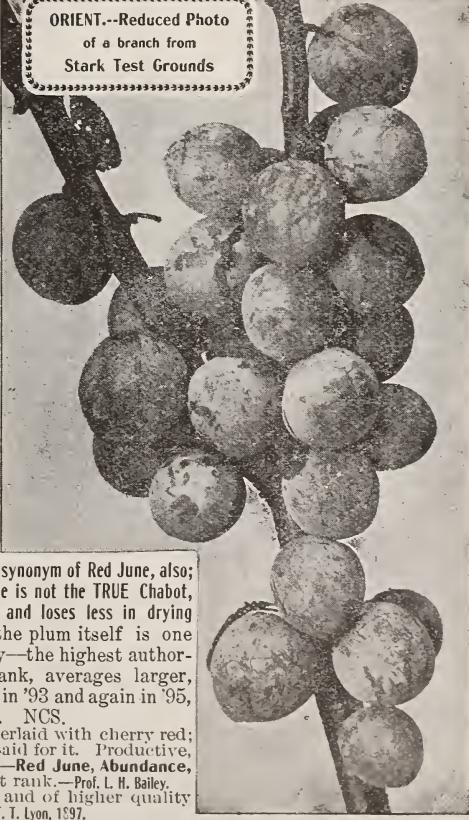
Normand (Georgeson; Mikado, or some,—Abundance was long since called Mikado).—Large, yellow, good; rots badly.

Our Unshakable
belief is that Red June's sun is not yet in its zenith. But a new cross of exceptional promise rising high in the plum firmament is Wickson, and it may be we are to have the exquisite delight of welcoming another genuinely great Jap to the loving world's horticultural heart.—C. M. S.

The One Thing that most drew us toward Jap plums was that they were, here, practically eurelio proof. All other plums tried here the last 25 years were not. True, we might have jared; but the first object of the experiments has been to find eurelio proof plums,—and improved varieties of other fruits, better than old kinds.—Rural N.Y.



ORIENT.—Reduced Photo
of a branch from
Stark Test Grounds



The «Edison of Horticulture,» Luther Burbank (photo annexed), for his new fruits, Gold, Splendor, Van Deman, Giant, Wickson, etc., has set the mark very high. His rule is that he will not send out any new sort unless it is the EQUAL OF THE BEST of its kind, and the SUPERIOR in one or more respects.

One of the few visitors admitted to Mr. B.'s grounds, says: «I'd rather be the originator of Burbank's best fruits than be President of the U. S. I shall make no comment on his vast work. Only the few can appreciate such an undertaking. He doesn't want notoriety, he doesn't want visitors; he has not one second to spare to them. He is the busiest man in the world.»

«The Light of Asia and the Star of the West» are united in Gold plum,—to produce which required a union of the globe's two great continents. Burbank, weighing well his words, says: GOLD, «is one of the most remarkable fruits known, the best plum ever produced. Delicious, juicy sweetness. Two weeks later than Burbank, KEEPS A MONTH, or more. Even if picked before ripe will ripen and color up perfectly. Clear, semi-transparent, light golden yellow, later nearly overspread with a hazy carmine blush; when fully ripe a transparent light cherry red—HANDSOMEST PLUM IN EXISTENCE [Color impossible to reproduce in painting.]. Have never seen a plum tree PERFECT SO MUCH FRUIT.»

Later: «GOLD is ALL AND MORE than I have yet said of it. Again WREATHED AND SMOOTHERED with gloriously handsome plums. You can have PERFECT CONFIDENCE that Gold will Delight Everybody Everywhere. Among plums there's NOTHING ON EARTH AS BEAUTIFUL OR GOOD. SPLENDOR, «has no rival . . . perhaps change the whole prune industry of the world. . . Superlative value, . . . exquisite quality, . . . stupendous bearer, has No Faults.» VAN DEMAN, is «in all respects the greatest advance ever made in improving the Quince, combining the best of every good quality known in this fruit, with size, beauty, tenderness, flavor, never before attained.»



'POOLE PRIDE (Kroh).—Dug from a fence corner in Union Co., Ill., many years since, by A. W. Poole, now the great Ark. orchardist. A SURE and really MARVELOUS cropper. In Union Co., Ill., growers consider neither Wild Goose nor any other native at all comparable. Bears bushels. Beautiful in baskets —pink and red (no yellow), with a bloom. Delicious for preserves, jellies, etc. July 25. FM. NCS. Wonderfully prolific.—J. W. Kerr, Md. Enormous and regular bearer.—P. J. Berckmans, Ga. For 4 yrs., very full.—M. J. Wragg, La. Picked ½ bu. fine plums from 2 Poole trees, 15 mos. planted; exquisite for jelly and preserves.—Mrs. J. F. Bain, Ark., '97.

Take it for all in all, Poole is our most satisfactory native,—altho' two other of our introductions, of the Miner type, Forest Rose, '78, and Prairie Flower, '81, are commended by the first experts; for example: P. FLOWER is decidedly the finest variety of this [the Miner] group with me. Fruit is larger and finer than that of the others, and the tree is a fine grower and very productive.—J. W. Kerr, Md., America's greatest native plum specialist.

Yet we discard both. Why? Simply because Gold covers their season, and—«the best is good enough.» **POND** (English Pond Sdg., Hungarian Prune, of Cal.—but NOT of Iowa).—One parent of Splendor and Giant. Very showy; often grows double, hence has been called «Double Hung'n Prune;» largely shipped east from Cal. Has PAID in Stark Denver orchards. Large, oval, red-violet; rather coarse, but juicy, sweet. M. **Colo. Hort. Soc.:** About the largest plum that grows; very prolific, an annual bearer, very hardy. Was also very prolific out at Littleton last year. Mr. Page said it was the largest they had.—W. S. Coburn, Delta Co., Colo.

«RED JUNE.—Named, introduced and commended by us over 6 years ago as the finest early Jap plum, it is to-day the first of all Japs, early or late,—praised from Maine to Cal., from Ia., Wis. and Mich., south.

Willard, as «finest early plum,» was also introduced the same year; to-day none is so poor as to do it honor. In fact, there has never been a time when a new fruit found its true level so certainly and so speedily as now. FM. NNCS. See colored plate; also Red June photo, under Burbank.

WEEK or more earlier than Abundance, harder in tree, bud, blossom; blooms later, hence a surer cropper—loaded full when Abundance, Burbank, etc., all killed. So early, it is comparatively exempt from rot,—ripe June 28, here in N. E. Mo.; ready to ship some days earlier. Showy, attractive solid red, with blue bloom,—ripens and colors well even if picked when half-ripe. Does not drop; juicy, good,—a delicious canning plum, with Damson flavor. Skin thick; good keeper and shipper; outsells all partly colored kinds.—C. M. Stark, in R. N.Y.

For plum growers, the THOUSANDS of Red June testimonials, are what Horace Greeley would have called «mighty interesting reading.» Samples are appended:

RED JUNE you sent now in full bearing; through ripening June 15. All in all it is the most valuable of ALL plums. Ripens well when picked green. Rots but little. The coming market plum. Far beyond ALL others yet introduced.—Dr. J. T. Whitaker, originator Whitaker Plum, Tex.

All you claim for it and a great deal more; best all round plum.—Pres't H. S. Back, Idaho Hort. Soc. [see under Springdale apple, pg. 34.] THIS season's experience emphasizes the value of Red June. Its fine color, good flavor, firm flesh and fine keeping qualities, together with its freedom from rot, very LATE blooming, and abundant fruitfulness make it one of the most desirable plums for general planting. . . later, Sept. 15, '97: Bull, 85 mailed. You will be pleased to see that Red June comes to the front. The 2 Gold plums set last year doing finely; one bore this year; certainly all you claim for it.—Prof. F. S. Earle, Ala. Exp. St'n.

Splendid market plum; large, firm, handsome.—L. Burbank, Cal. Best early red plum. Very prolific.—Pres't P. J. Berckmans.

Cornell Exp. St'n: Best early Jap. . . Promises to be the very best market plum for this region.—Prof. L. H. Bailey.

N. Y. Exp. St'n: Promises to be the best of all early plums for N. Y. Mich. Exp. St'n: Enormously productive.

Loaded with beautiful fruit.—A. J. Masters, Appanoose Co., Ia., '97.

Best of all early Jap plums.—Pac. Rural Press, Jan. 8, '98.

Earliest of any of equal value; of great promise . . . beautiful cherry-red, medium to large, good.—S. D. Willard, N.Y.

Better than you claim.—E. V. Dunn, Tex. [see under Ingram, p. 24.]

Cannot be too much praised.—L. Meyer, Ark., in Rural New-Yorker.

Coldest weather Mich. has had in 25 years. Peach buds nearly all dead. Satsuma plums all dead. Abundance 95 to 97% dead. Burbank 85% dead. Red June, 100% alive. How is that? Red June has a GREAT future. . .

LATER: The Only Plum that Paid for its ground this year, was Red June.—E. A. Boal, Berrien Co., Mich., Dec. 22, 1897.



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BY STARK BROS.

WICKSON (Perfection).—**Largest plum** we have ever seen. Promises strongly to fulfill Burbank's claim, «Best of all Japs.» FM. NCS. **A Year Before** its introduction, we rec'd it from Mr. Burbank for trial; several test winters since: **22° below zero** did not even brown the pits of late shoots. . . . Bears very full.—C. M. Stark, in R. N. Y. **Strikingly handsome**, high quality. . . . Mr. Burbank **never intentionally overpraises** his grand productions.—**Rural New-Yorker.** Small l.yr. tree, sets spring '97, bore 16 plums, yet made enormous growth. Very promising. . . . —E. B. Good, Pa., in R. N. Y. Set **Last Spring**, our trees are bearing crops of from **3 to 20** very large plums. **Beautiful.**—P. J. Berckmans, Ga., July 7, '97.

Cornell Exp. St'n, '96: Remarkably handsome, very large, firm, deep maroon-red, aromatic; excellent keeper. Stark Bro's report that Wickson has stood **22° below zero** at their place without injury. Later, '97: Am **impressed** with Wickson; expect to find it an acquisition to N. Y. Perfectly hardy here. E. Smith & Sons, west'n N. Y., write me: «More than pleased. . . . good grower, very hardy, larger than any other Jap. . . . Have 100 trees in orchard, shall set **500 more.**»—Prof. L. H. Bailey.

N. Y. Exp. St'n: Successfully fruited in N. Y.; attracting attention. Extremely large, fine flavor, good quality, attractive color. Even when picked rather green it **colors and ripens well.** Skin thick, uniformly red, shaded reddish purple. . . . It is not surprising nurserymen are increasing their stock of Wickson.—Prof. S. A. Beach.

Mich. Exp. St'n: Fruited **heavily** here on scions of but a **single season's growth.** So far, entirely hardy. Form and size of Kelsey; ripe Aug. 3. Average weight **above 3 oz.**—I. T. Lyon, 1897.

The **2d year** after grafting, had 4 oz. plums. **Darker and better** than Pond Sdlg. Red June and Burbank are also fine. Good late domestica plums, Grand Duke, Black Diamond, Arch Duke.—

Prof. L. R. Taff, Mich. Ag'l Coll., before Canada Fruit Growers' Ass'n.—from R. N. Y., Jan. 1, '98.

In **New Zealand**, the most critical experts came, and were **struck with astonishment.** Of most gorgeous appearance, largest size, **7½ by 7¾ inches.** . . . Two-yr.-old graft bore **18 fine fruits;** flavor all could be desired; color, most handsome; tree a fine, sturdy grower.—D. Hay & Son, New Zealand.

Am Budding Over part of my orchard to Wickson and Grand Duke. . . . —L. Coates, Vice Pres't Cal. Hort. Soc.

COLOR in a market fruit is second **ONLY** to **SIZE**, in importance. Kerr, the great plum specialist, sold even native plums of bright color, **150% higher** than off-colored Japs—even Abundance, Burbank, etc. **So in England.**—We shall want pears from your side all the year. Can take all the best peaches you have. Also Jap plums, Pond Sdlg., and all other plums of **Large Size and Good Color.**—W. N. White & Co., Ltd., Covent Garden, London, Eng.

Don't Despise the native plums. **BUYERS** do not. N. Y. Exp. St'n says natives sell as high as best Eup. sorts. Kerr gets more. Berryhill & Shaul, the great Ia. plum and cherry growers, get fine prices. Natives from Stark Denver orchards have sold readily, and much higher than Eup. sorts shipped in from Cal. Since this is so, what a field is there for a plum like Gold, at once, **large, beautiful, good!**

QUESTION.—Is it not better to plant some Gold and Japan plums, that bear in a year or two, rather than all Eup. or other sorts, many of which won't bear for 5 or 6 years? If you plant for profit, figure a little.

Satsuma.—Bears in some sections, but not here; six successive years without fruit—except one single matured plum; self-sterile, but is surrounded by other kinds. In orchard, we set 15 trees; 3 alive now; 10 trees planted in Stark Denver orchards all killed out, 1st winter; yet even Abundance is $\frac{1}{2}$ hardy there, and fruits more or less. Satsuma has bloomed full here but twice; usually killed in bud. K.

Red June, under same conditions, has given 6 successive full crops, so has Earliest of All; Orient 4 full, and two $\frac{1}{2}$ crops; Burbank and Abundance, 4 crops, 2 failures. Satsuma is chiefly valuable on Pacific Coast, where even Simonii bears; low quality,—except for kitchen uses; dull, unattractive on market. DULL red, flesh bold red, rather coarse and acid, fair to good; usually too sour; excellent for culinary uses; its color is against it for market; fairly productive with us, reported unproductive by others.—Prof. L. H. Bailey, Cornell.

Wholly Valueless with me for market; generally unproductive, and when it does bear, fruit rots badly.—J. W. Kerr, Md.

Shippers' Pride.—Most worthless Eup. fruited in Stark Denver orchards; unproductive, often bitter. RIPENS unevenly, unattractive; ripens with others of more value. Grafted our trees to better kinds.—S. D. Willard, N. Y.

Stoddard.—Almost size of Am. Eagle; larger pit; one of the most valued of this type. FM. NCS. **Very large; red.** One of the **finest** of the group; tree succeeds well here and is **very productive.**—J. W. Kerr, Md.

Strawberry (Uchi-Beni).—Ripe shortly after Earliest of all, not as large, nor as good, nor so productive. F. LIGHT red, meaty, good, with flavor of domestica plums. Was sent us by Stark Bro's, who named it, but finding it not so good as Earliest of All, they discarded. Yet at Cornell this year it was a **good plum.**—Prof. L. H. Bailey.

Tatge.—Origin, Ia. Bids fair to rival all others of Lombard family; young bearer, immensely productive.

TRAGEDY.—A cross, German Prune x Duane Purple; dark purple; rich and sweet; freestone; EARLY. M. Hangs well, ripens evenly; trees could be STRIPPED here Aug. 10, a desirable feature.—Allen Bro's, Ont., Canada '97.

EXTREMELY valuable shipper to distant markets. Averaged about \$3 per 20 lb. crate.—Coates, Vice-pres't Cal. Hort. Soc.

'WILD GOOSE Improved (Whitaker).—A reproduction of the old Wild Goose, but somewhat better. FM. NCS. The difference claimed by me is **well established**,—superior prolificness, larger size.—Dr. J. T. Whitaker, originator, Tex. '97. BETTER than Wild Goose with me; one of the most profitable market kinds; same season; noticeably less subject to the hard brown spots, followed by discoloration and rot, often conspicuous in Wild Goose.—J. W. Kerr, Md.

Willard.—From the first we insisted Red June was as early, finer. Age cannot wither the one, the other—Cornell Exp. St'n: Quality poor,—so poor I cannot recommend it. Mr. Burbank writes me: «Discarded Willard many years ago, although it may prove valuable as an early variety; but would prefer Stark Bros.' Red June, which ripens at the same time.» Later, Cornell Bulletin 139, 1897: No new report to make upon this variety. Its only merit is earliness; quality **very poor.** Strong grower but sheds its leaves early.—Prof. L. H. Bailey.

Ogon is a beautiful yellow plum, but quality is about on a par with Willard, which is very low.—S. D. Willard, N. Y.

'WYANT.—Fruits in great masses and clusters. Without doubt the following three are **sure, fine, AMERICAN** sorts: American Eagle, July 25-Aug. 5; Stoddard, Aug. 5-10; Wyant, Aug. 10-20. FM. NCS.

The best of this type are particularly profitable in Colo. etc.—**ironclad**; fruited full in Stark Denver orchards in '92, when Eup. types all failed,—except Freestone Damson and Bayav Green Gage.

VERY highly pleased with Wyant; at the head of AMERICAN plums.—Berryhill & Shaul, '97.—large plum and cherry orchardists, Iowa.

Ia. Hort. Soc.: Heavy bearer. Very large, red; quality best; freestone. Splendid for cooking or market.—H. A. Terry, LARGE; purplish red; tree forms a close head, becomes drooping with weight of its large crops.—J. W. Kerr, Md., 1897.



VAN DEMAN (Trade-Mark).—Strong grower; the hardiest, surest, and youngest bearer we have,—engraving shows part of a 2-yr. tree bending under 12 mammoth quinces. Trees loaded to the ground

and a wonderful sight. A most delicious food, is Van Dem'n Quince Syrup. More delicate than purest maple syrup. Take 1 part Van Deman quinces, 3 parts apples; keep in sealed jars; if jelly is desired, simply cook down more. KM. NCS.

THIS is not a quince region, but my young V. D. bore a 1-pound quince, from a 2d bloom; 1st blooms killed by late frost.—L. Meyer, Ark.
My 2-yr. V. D. bore 11 fine quinces. Strong grower.—A. T. Hudelson, Pike Co., Mo.

First Quince Blooms I've seen in over 20 years are now on V.D.—full of blossoms.—B. Heaton, Ringgold, Ga., in Rural World. SEEMS hardy, valuable variety. Originated by Burbank, the most noted of horticultural hybridizers.—Rural N.Y. WILL produce more big, fine flavored, golden fruit than any other. Bears 3 crops; first ripens 2 weeks or more before Orange, often weighing 25 to 26 oz., most superior flavor, texture, quality. Tender BAKED; canned or dried, retains all the quince flavor. . . Opens a new field. . . Side by side, have Orange, Rea Mam., Meech, Champion, and others, but not one is comparable with Van Deman in size, quality, flavor, beauty.—L. Burbank, Cal. Ohio Hort. Soc.: My quince trees make me more money than any other fruit trees.—N. Ohmer.

Mo. Hort. Soc.: Quinces bear young—before apples. . . Champion has not been so good as Orange.—J. P. Turner, Mo. QUINCE trees are sure to bear nearly every year if given good care. . . Both in flower and fruit, the handsomest fruit tree of temperate climates. The large flowers. . . clothe the whole exterior of the tree with a mantle of snowy whiteness when the bloom of springtime already begins to wane. The golden fruits. . . more showy than oranges. . . The «Golden apple of the Hesperides» of the early Greek writers.—Prof. L. H. Bailey, Cornell Bulletin No. 80. **MEECH PROLIFIC.**—As a young and unfailing cropper, excels Rea, Orange, Champion, etc. KM. CS.

MO. MAMMOTH.—Of great merit. Large, very rich and aromatic; a young and good bearer. KM. CS.

Highly Delighted with Mo. Mammoth quince; with us it is 2d only to Van Deman.—D. Hay & Son, New Zealand, June, '97.

Mo. Hort. Soc.: Sold all the Mo. Mammoth we could grow for 10¢ each. Later: Finest at St. Louis Expo. were Mo. M.—the largest quinces I ever saw.—Scc'y Goodman. Big Profits in quinces; not hard to grow.—Kirschgraber. Mo. M. is THE quince; only good one ever grown; hardy at Kan. City.—Pres't Evans. Champion blights; LATE.—Holman. Alaska, «do not find more desirable than Orange or Rea; trees full, but quinces neither larger nor better.»—Rural N.Y., Dec. 25, '97. Angers, «used chiefly for dwarf pear stocks; often substituted for the finer sorts; not productive. Bourgeat, «medium to large, firm, ripe just after Orange. Rea Mammoth, not very productive.»—Prof. L. H. Bailey.

Trees by Mail are not worth their cost,—puny things at best. And the freight (postage) is 8¢ per lb.! “Grow Anything called for, whether good or bad,” say some nurserymen; “as to testing, why, THAT'S the planter's work.” Well, no lasting and satisfactory business was ever built up this way. And the losses, disappointments, discouragements caused,—who can estimate them!

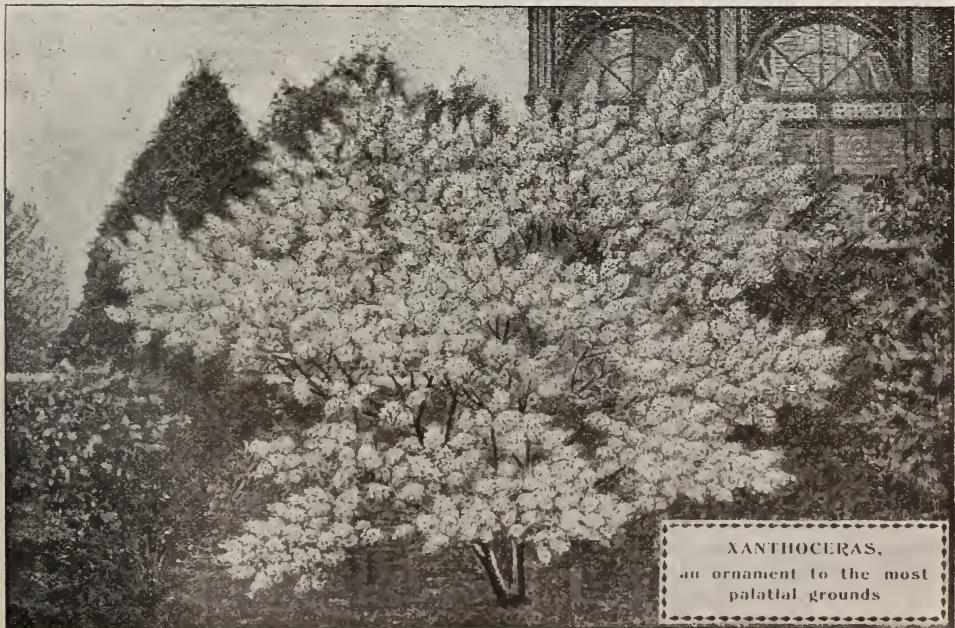




Shipping Season continues until late in spring; **17 large packing houses** and **frost proof cellars** now greatly lengthen our shipping season. In these great buildings all stock is graded and packed, **Avoiding Exposure to Sun, Air, Wind or Frost**, and work goes steadily on without interruptions from bad weather or similar causes.

Planting Season, Fall or Spring? Either. The time for planting, however, is **not** regulated by **date**, nor by the state of vegetation at the locality of the planter, but by the condition of the trees **to be planted**. Parties south of us annually receive and successfully plant Stark trees weeks after their spring has opened.

References.—St. Louis National Bank, Simmons Hdw. Co., Bemis Bag Co., and other wholesale houses, St. Louis. R. G. Dun & Co.'s Agency, Bradstreet's. Gen'l offices great railway systems: Burlington Route Alton, Santa Fe, Frisco, D. & R. G., Ill. Cen'l, Iron Mt., Mo. Pac., M., K. & T. Exp. Co's: U. S., Adams, Pacific. Leading fruit firms, Chicago, St. Louis, Kan. City, Denver. Mercantile Bank, Louisiana, Mo.





Hardy
Hydrangea

ORNAMENTAL TREES, etc.: Bechtel Double-flowered Rose-colored Am.

Wild Crab Apple.—A new and rare medium-sized ornamental tree of great beauty and merit—**hardy** as are the common wild crab apples, and of wide adaptability to various soils. Does not bloom until leaves are fully developed, which adds greatly to its beauty. Blossoms have the **exquisite perfume** of the common wild crab apple blossoms, and besides, are **double**,—resembling **delicate pink roses**. LAWN, PARK. NNCS.

NOTE.—Trees suitable for Streets, Avenues, Roadsides, etc., are marked S; for Lawns or Yards, L; for larger grounds, Parks, etc., P.

Crimson-leaved Plum (P. Pissardii).—Makes a small-sized, round-headed, fine-branched tree or large shrub. Finest of all red or purple-leaved trees; leaves hold their bright crimson red color all season long. Has lovely white flowers, and bears a very good plum—also deep crimson from time it is formed, until ripe. LP. NCS.

Rose Tree of China (P. Triloba).—«A Tree full of Roses.» From China. Entirely hardy, «takes care of itself,» and, when **budded on hardy plum** stock, makes a most **charming little tree**. Blooms in April, long before roses, and every branch is thickly set with the delicate pink flowers, resembling small roses. LP. NNCS.

Mo. Hort. Soc.; Conspicuous in early spring, **crowded** with beautiful blossoms. **Specially fine** for **small grounds**.

Birch, Cut-leaved Weeping.—A **most** beautiful tree. Its tall, slender growth, graceful drooping branches, snowy white bark, and delicately cut, fern-like foliage, form a rare combination. Often planted in groups of 3 to 5; much used in N. Y. state cemeteries. «**FINEST** tree of the temperate zones.» «**Lovely EVERY HOUR** of the year.» Most **BEAUTIFUL** of forest trees, the lady of the woods.—Coleridge. SLP. NNCS.

Chestnut, Am. Sweet.—A valuable native tree. Nuts sweet, delicate. Long-lived on **oak** soil. LP. NCS.

Elm, Am. White.—This noble native of our own forests is a queen among street trees. SP. NNCS.

Mt. Ash, Eup. (The Rowan, of Scottish song and story).—A hardy tree of medium size. Shining leaves and large cymes of white flowers; covered from July till winter with great clusters of bright scarlet berries. LP. NNC.

Mt. Ash, Oak-leaved.—Perhaps preferable to the foregoing. Foliage deeply lobed, bright green above, downy beneath, presenting a most dense mass, thro' which play light and shadow. Bright red berries. LP. NNC.

Maple, Norway.—One of the best of all dense headed maples for **BROAD** avenues. Resembles the Sugar Maple, but a more rapid grower, with even deeper green; larger, denser, and more shining foliage. SLP. NCS.

Maple, Silver-leaved.—Hardy, easily grown; useful for quick shade; easily broken by winds. SP. NCS.

Maple, Weir Cut-leaved Weeping.—One of the finest ornamentals. Most rapid grower of all weeping trees; bears cutting back exceedingly well,—may be kept any desired size. Of graceful habit, with long, recurving, drooping branches and beautiful cut foliage. Combines many excellent qualities. SLP. NCS.

Olive, Russian (Olea Angustifolia).—Hardy, **beautiful**, small tree; bark dark green, wood very heavy and burns like a candle (often called the Eup, Candle Tree), fine silvery foliage; deep golden flowers, very fragrant. LP. NNCS.

ta. Exp. St': Strongly recommend it as a **coming floriferous and hardy tree** for this latitude.—Prof. Wragg.

Pecan, Northern Hardy.—«Best of all Nuts,» says Prof. Van Deman. From large nuts grown here in Mo. and Ill.; trees hardy far north, while So. trees do not endure winters even so far north as So. Mo. SLP. NCS.

Persimmon, Mo. Hardy.—From choice, large-fruited trees; handsome and useful hardy tree. LP. NCS.

Poplar, Bolleana.—Requires dry soil; superb in arid regions; made finer growth in Stark Denver orchards without irrigation than any other tree. A marked object wherever it grows. Tall and slender like Lombardy, but not short-lived, nor does it sprout like the common Silver Poplar. Of rapid growth; leaves almost black green above, and «as white as snow on the under side.» Excellent for wind breaks and screens. SLP. NNCS.

Poplar Bolleana is an ornamental tree of the **first order** and I **cannot too highly recommend it.**—Prof. Sargent.

Poplar, Carolina.—Finest trees for **quick shade**. **Endures smoke and gas** of cities better than any other. **Easy to live**, rapid grower, pyramidal form, perfectly hardy, healthy, **not troubled with insects**; large, handsome, glossy leaves. Does not sucker nor lift up pavements. Fine for screens and wind breaks. SP. NNCS.

THE tree for Chicago; succeeds all along the lake shore where other trees have failed.—W. H. Blawney, of C., B. & Q. R. R.

Purple Fringe.—A small tree or large shrub; brilliant autumn foliage. Its curious dusky fringe or hair-like blossoms, appear in July, cover the tree as a cloud of smoke or mist, and remain all summer. LP. NCS.

Willow, Weeping (*S. Babylonica*).—A graceful, ornamental, quick-growing, large tree; invaluable along water courses and on low ground; thrives, however, in all soils; easy to live. STREET, LAWN, PARK. CS.

SHRUBS: *Hydrangea (H. paniculata)*.

(grand).—A showy, large shrub, often 8 ft.; blooms the first year, and from July to Sept., when few shrubs are in flower. Grows anywhere; hardy, vigorous. Flowers white, then pinkish, in great trusses. Prune back every spring one-half of last season's growth.

MAKES a good single specimen and can be trained in bush form, or as a small tree with about 3 ft. of stem and a large, broad head. Where there is a border of shrubbery, should be used in numbers to make a strong feature, for in its season there will be little else; instead of placing a single plant in the shrub border, set all together in one group, 3, 4 or more. But its most effective use is in large masses or beds with a background of heavy foliage or evergreens. The dark green of the trees and a space of green lawn in front form a setting for the mass of white, making a display the effect of which is simply **grandeur, magnificence**.

Lilac, Purple (Common L.).—Violet purple.

“White (Com. White).”—Creamy white flowers.

“BUDDED; by all means plant these choicest and most remarkable of hardy shrubs:

Belle de Nancy, Chas. X, Giant Tree Lilac (Japonica), Leon Simon, Ludwig Späth, Marie Legraye, Madame Lemoine, Michael Buchner, Pres't Grevy, Tournefort,—all strong buds.

Snowball.—A well known large shrub, with balls of pure white flowers. On account both of **hardiness** and the graceful way in which its snowballs are tossed in the air, this old fashioned favorite is superior to the newer Japan (*plicatum*) species.

Spirea Billardi.—A very showy shrub. Flowers rose-colored, in great spikes. Hardy, easily grown; needs but small space; height often 6 ft. Blooms **nearly all summer**.

S. Van Houtte.—Finest and most showy of Spireas; hardy and entirely **(at home) everywhere**, even on the bleakest western prairies.

We cannot say too much for it—must be seen in full flower to appreciate its **wondrous beauty**. Somewhat like Bridal Wreath, but better far than that old beauty.

An upright grower, with long, slender branches, which drop gracefully with their weight of foliage and flowers. Flowers pure white, in **great clusters**, forming **cylindrical plumes**. When in full bloom, a “perfect snow-bank or fountain of flowers.”

ILL. HORT. SOC.: Very beautiful. Flowers last a month. Similar in its beauty to English hawthorn.

Xanthoceras.—A **most desirable new shrub**, or small tree. Flowers white, crimson centers; young bloomer. Cut back closely when set. Hardy strain from Ia. Exp. St'n. la. Exp. St'n: One of the finest shrubs in cultivation. Blooms in early spring, just at the time we need flowers most. Is covered with the loveliest show of flowers, in great racemes. Admirably adapted to this latitude and outrivals the Hydrangea.—Prof. Wragg.

CLIMBERS: Honeysuckle, Hall Japan (*Halleana*).—Almost evergreen; flowers pure white at first, later changing to cream and buff; **exceedingly fragrant**, best bloomer of all—blooms from July to Dec. Rapid grower. Best **substitute for grass** under trees and in other shaded places. Spreads rapidly when not trellised.

Ampelopsis quinquefolia (Va. Creeper, Am. Ivy, Woodbine).—Of rapid growth, luxuriant foliage—in autumn, assumes most gorgeous crimsons and purples. This vine holds the place in America that Ivy does in England.

A. Veitchii (Boston or Japan Ivy).—Leaves overlap, forming a dense sheet of green. Tender while young; needs protection the first winter; grows well, clings tenaciously to wall or fence. Crimson-scarlet in autumn.

Tree Values.—In a recent law suit in Niagara Co., N. Y., a row of maples in front of a country home was involved. These are the values fixed: for 13 trees, 26 years planted, \$100 each; 9, \$65 each, and a few, \$125 each. The Courts have repeatedly held that fruit trees were worth original cost, plus \$1 for each year's growth.



Hall
Japan
Honeysuckle

ROSES : Mme. Plantier (White)

Hardy, Cemetery Rose).—Best hardy white; beautiful as single plants and for rose hedges. Flowers pure white, borne in very large clusters, making great display. HOW RICH their freight of flowers! Pure, perfectly white roses, with the loveliest clusters and sprays! You can cut great basketfuls from the bushes for six weeks or more.—SO. FLORIST.

Queen of Prairies.—Queen of all HARDY climbing roses. Bright rosy red.

Red Moss (Henry Martyn).—A deliciously sweet, beautiful rose; rich, glossy, large. Hardy, STRONG grower; needs NO CARE.

A Dread of Freight Charges not only prevents many from ordering direct from some well known nursery, but often leads them to buy, they know not what, from irresponsible « dealers. » Our plan not only puts a nursery at your door, but gives you as low prices as are ever given on GOOD trees.

Tree Dealers of the « lightning rod » stamp are constant in their abuse of Stark trees,—but Stark customers write that they « love us for these enemies we have made. » Well, the tree sharks are not without cause for their aspersions, for Stark trees have kept them on short commons for some years now. « Hence these tears. »

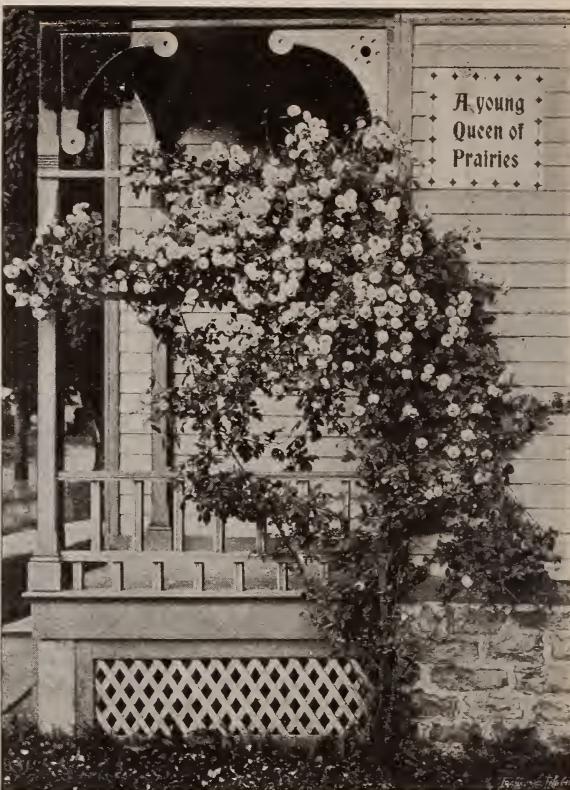
Your Dollars paid for Stark Trees are WELL INVESTED. When paid for poor trees they are GONE, and you shall see them again no more forever.

Good Packing Pays,—pays us, pays our customers. Boxing costs US much more than BALING,—but saves the trees. We use nearly 100 carloads lumber and other packing material a year, costing many thousands of dollars; yet, we box and pack free, always paper-line boxes, and—our packers, after long years, have caught the ever elusive « Know How. »

11,000 Miles.—Cases landed here Dec. 29, '97, in the hottest and driest season we have had for many years. To our great surprise, everything opened out in most perfect condition, and in the whole shipment, not a twig was damaged and the stock looked as fresh as the day it was packed. We showed the cases as they lay opened in our packing house, to many friends, and none could believe that those trees had crossed the snows of the Rocky Mts. and the heat of the Equator. We do not think we shall lose even a bud, and can only add that **Your Packing Defies Competition** and cannot be improved upon. Accept our congratulations. . . Wishing you all the prosperity you deserve, we are, yours most sincerely,

D. Hay & Son, New Zealand, Jan. 22, 1898.

A young
Queen of
Prairies



Mme. Plantier,
"Cemetery Rose"



There is a Design in these few pages to run over the entire field of tree fruits, zigzagging across it and visiting its points of greatest interest. Without attempting to treat the subject as a whole, with any fullness because of hurried work and brief space, we have tried to present as tersely as possible, some leading facts and discoveries in horticulture, and to note particularly what has been done, where, and what is now going on. No line of investigation is followed with more difficulty than the establishment of facts in horticultural science. Each out post of the borderland of this science is firmly established only after repeated assaults of doubt, inaccurate and fallacious reasoning, as well as wilfully false observation.

Further statements of experience of the conscientious and painstaking observers quoted, and of others like them, points from the wholesale markets, home and foreign, valuable lore from the societies and stations, the light future experience may shed,—all these, with a variety of other delectable particulars, may be some day set forth. That is a thing, however, that hinges on the public fancy.



VISITING DELEGATION OF AM. ASS'N of NURSERYMEN

At the STARK NURSERY, June 11, 1897

Note.—Unfortunately, Messrs. R. C. and P. J. A. Berkman's of Ga., and Mr. H. Zimmerman of Ill., were out among the trees and failed to get into the picture.

A BIG DAY—Visitors from the Universe Inspect the Stark Nursery and are Delighted Condensed from LOUISIANA, MO., PRESS.

Friday was a big day for Louisiana, when our city was invaded by an army of the most prominent nurserymen in the U. S., the visitors coming from N. Y., Ind., Neb., Ga., Pa., N. C., O., Mo., Del., Kan., Mich., N. J., Md., Ia., Ill., Wis., Tex., Ky., Mass., Va., La., and even from France.

It is safe to say no such advertisement was ever given a city in one day.

The American Association of Nurserymen met in St. Louis last week and came to a fitting close on the occasion of the annual Shaw banquet given to the nurserymen and florists by the managers of the renowned Shaw's Garden. This was one of the provisions of the will of the late Henry Shaw by which \$700 is set apart every year for that purpose. The banquet was presided over by Prof. Wm. Trelease, manager of the Garden, and was a grand success, over 200 guests being present. The Stark Nursery was represented by C. M. Stark, E. W. Stark, W. P. Stark, Judge Gene Stark, J. O. Stark, and Messrs. Duncan, Gatewood, Rogerson and Meriwether.

After the ceremonies, two sleepers, chartered by Stark Bro's, were occupied by nurserymen and left at this city. . . .

An unexpected incident took place, when Pres. Rouse called the meeting to order and in the name of the ass'n presented Stark Bro's with a \$100 office clock, bearing the following inscription:

«Presented to Stark Bro's N. & O. Co., by visiting delegation of American Association of Nurserymen, June 11, 1897.»

The visitors were quartered at the Palmer and Grand Central, and every item of expense—railroad and sleeping car fare to and from St. Louis, hotel bill, carriage hire, even papers, etc.—was paid by Stark Bro's.

The guests all expressed themselves as delighted with their entertainment in our city. They were astonished at the magnitude of the Stark Nursery's business and their improved methods and left with pleasant memories of their brief sojourn.

Condensed from the National Nurseryman.

Sixty members of the Ass'n accepted the invitation of Stark Bro's to visit the latter's nurseries. It had been planned by the Messrs. Stark to convey the visitors by steamer, but the banquet Thursday night interfered. So sleeping cars were arranged to be in waiting at the conclusion of the banquet. . . . The party remained aboard the cars until a seasonable hour when they were taken in carriages about the extensive property of Stark Bro's. . . .

Condensed from the St. Louis Republic.

Stark Bro's did the handsome thing by the Ass'n; after the Shaw banquet, they took about 60 members to Union Station and gave them berths in Pullmans where they could sleep, only to find themselves on a switch at Louisiana next morning. The guests were entertained at hotels, and given carriage rides about the nursery. . . .

Condensed, Horticultural Gleaner, Austin, Tex.

At 2 a. m. the 11th, we took sleepers for Louisiana, as invited guests of Stark Bro's, the leading nurserymen of the west. Those courteous gentlemen escorted us to the hotels for breakfast and then to their offices. The large number of people busily engaged in office work show the immense business of this firm. We were soon on the street, where carriages were in waiting to carry us to the nurseries. The country is beautiful, with its rich valleys and towering hills. We spent the morning looking at the main nursery and packing houses and eating strawberries. . . . Afternoon we again drove five or six miles, seeing more trees and fine country. This firm has, in addition, large nurseries in Illinois. All the expense of this trip was borne by the Stark Bro's. . . . They will never be forgotten by these visiting nurserymen.

STARK BRO'S, Print, Louisiana, Mo.

STARK
TREES

SENATOR

STARK
NURSERY

TWO
QUA
KING

DELICIOUS
TRADE MARK

PAINTED From NATURE
for STARK BRO'S

COPYRIGHT
1898
BY STARK BRO'S

FLORENCE CRAB
"WORTH ALL
OTHERS"

STARK
BROS.
LOUISIANA, MO.
Stark, Mo.
Rockport, Ill.
Dansville, N. Y.